For immediate release.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS, 1924.

July 1, 1924.

Dear Sir:

The following statistics on lynching for the first six months of the year 1924 have been compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

Total number lynched 5

Offenses charged:
- Rape 3
- Attempted Rape 1
- Killing officer of the law 1

Record by states:
- Florida 2
- Georgia. 2
- South Carolina 1

Comparison of records:
- First 6 months of 1924 5
- " " " " 1923 15
- " " " " 1922 30
- " " " " 1921 36

It is gratifying to note that the record thus far for the year 1924 is the lowest for the first six months of any of the forty years during which the record has been kept. It is an encouraging sign of progress toward the total elimination of this evil, which is condemned by public opinion. It is an indication of the growing sentiment against lawlessness in general, and in my judgment a result of the spread and influence of interracial cooperation. All of the persons lynched were Negroes.

Very truly yours,

PRINCIPAL.

LYNCHING RECORD 1924

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, there were 16 persons lynched in 1924. This is the smallest number lynched in any year since records of lynchings have been kept, and is 17 less than the number 33 for the year 1923 and 41 less than the number 57 for the year 1922. 9 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 6 from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 45 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 2 women, 1 white and 1 colored, were among those thus saved. 8 of these preventions of lynchigns were in Northern States and 37 in Southern States. In 36 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 9 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 19 persons thus before the courts only 5 were convicted. These were given jail sentences.

Of the 16 persons lynched all were Negroes. 7 or less than one half of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were: Murder,1; rape,5; attempted rape,2; killing officer of the law,2; insulting woman, 3; attacking woman,1; killing man in altercation,1; wounding man,1.

The states in which lynchings occurred, and the number ineach state are as follows: Florida,5; Georgia,2; Illinois,1; Kentucky,1; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi,2; Missouri,1; South Carolina,1; Tennessee,1; Texas,1.

Compiled by Monroe N. Work, Director
Department of Records and Research
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

Lynchings—1924. 13
Cases of.

Europe.

1562

Football Referee Lynched by Fans at Game in Italy

LONDON, Feb. 12.—[United News.]—A football referee was lynched at Lugano, Italy, for giving a decision unfavorable to the Lugano team, according to a Central News dispatch from Geneva.

The dispatch states that the crowd rushed on the field, seized the referee and did him to death.

Clipping
2-13-24

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Lynchings - 1924.
Cases of.

Florida.

1599

2 LYNCHED BY FLORIDA MOB INNOCENT

Florida Ku Klux Thirsting For Blood Selected Two Victims At Random

MEN HANGED AND SHOT

Fort Meyers, Fla. (Argus News Service) June 6—. Crying like demons for human blood a mob of nearly five hundred men and boys gathered in this little town last night and was only at ease after two colored men had been lynched by shooting and dragging their bodies through the several business and residential streets of the city.

Following a report that two white girls had been attacked while on their way from a picnic certain agitators, who are said to be Klansmen, began gathering their forces together with the avowed purpose to have what the leader called a "neck-tie" party before they slept.

First Man Innocent

During the afternoon, it was learned that one suspect had been arrested. This information inflamed the mob and running like wild men the crowd reached the jail, jeering and demanding of the Sheriff the keys, which were turned over by the leader. When the door was opened Roy Wilson was seized by the leader, assisted by as many as could get around the victim, and a rope was quickly placed about his neck.

Pleads His Innocence

When the rope was placed around Wilson's neck, the leader called for silence while he asked the victim was he guilty of attacking the two white girls. He shook his head as he could hardly speak, because the pinching rope had almost forced his tongue from his mouth. But each denial was met by a great roar from the mob "he is guilty, lynch him;" then he was led away amid shouts of glee, the crowd surging backward and forward until on the outskirts told to urn for his life, and as he ran with the rope still about his neck nearly a hundred shots were fired into his body as he fell and was still lying on the ground.

The crowd was followed by several automobiles filled with older men, women and children. And some one caught hold of the rope which was about the neck and tied it to an automobile and the body was dragged through the streets. The members of the mob, who were armed with clubs and knives were seen to run upon the dead body, strike and stab the victim, while being dragged thru the streets where hundreds of spectators looked on.

Streets Marked With Flesh and Blood

In the wake of the auto parade, the streets especially where they were paved, were marked with blood and flesh as the body was nearly minus all flesh and clothing when the mob stopped.

A Second Victim Spied

When the mob dispersed and the little groups were going to the several hallwicks a Negro was spied in the railroad yards evidently attempting to leave the town on the first freight train. Some one suggested that because the man appeared to be trying to hide that he was the guilty party. Whereupon the group together with workers in the yard, seized Milton Williams, saying he would be turned over to Sheriff Albreten, but instead, the victim was held in the railroad yards until a mob was formed of about one hundred, who took Williams out and shot him, tied his body to an auto and dragged it to the spot of the other victim and left the two in the street.

walking too close to a white girl in the main section of the town. Minister announced from their pulpits that a lynching would take place if the sheriff was successful in apprehending Gabe Nathan and Riley Thornton, the two men named by the woman as her "assailants". The mob was headed by the leading business men of the town, according to reports made to the police authorities.

Women and children formed a long line in the main street through which Nathan's lifeless body was dragged. They jeered as a small boy placed a pistol to the dead man's head and fired two shots. Nathan's fingers were slashed from his hands and passed around as souvenirs. His body was so terribly mangled and so many parts missing, that it was buried in a small basket. A prominent physician in the city is in receipt of a package which contained two eyes, an ear and several teeth wrapped in a blood-stained letter of warning demanding that he advise all of his Race to leave the town.

Thornton, the second man seized, was on his way out of town when he was overtaken by several men in an auto. When questioned he said he was on his way to Jacksonville to secure employment. He knew nothing about the "assault" on the girl, and protested his innocence until the last. He was about to be released when a member of the party yelled, "let's have a little fun." A shot rang out and Thornton sank to the ground with a bullet through his head. His body was placed in the middle of the road and over 20 autos passed over it. Every bone was crushed.

The men, women and boys who took part in the lynching are known to the authorities, but no action is expected to be taken.

Fort Myers, Fla., May 26.—Two young negro youths, "Bubbers" Wilson and Milton Williams, met death at the hands of "unknown persons" early this morning following their positive identification as the two negroes who yesterday attacked two young Fort Myers school girls. Within a few hours after the crime, a systematical search was started independent of the efforts of the sheriff. A general round-up of suspicious characters by the sheriff netted Wilson, who was lodged in the county jail.

Hearing of this, armed citizens went to the jail and demanded the prisoner. The sheriff refused, but was overpowered, the jail unlocked and the negro led out, taken before one of the girls, identified, and then taken out of town. It is said he confessed to his captors whereupon his body was riddled with bullets and dragged through the streets.

Search for his accomplice was then continued with increased vigor. All outlets to the city were guarded. The hunted man was located at 6:45 a. m. on a northbound train in the railroad yards. Following his identification he met the same fate as the first negro.

The coroner's jury, in naming the cause of the deaths, reported that they "came to their death in the following manner, to wit: At the hands of persons unknown and we wish to commend the sheriff and his entire force for the earnest efforts made by them in their attempt to carry out the duties of their office."

of his keys and seized a negro serving a sentence for an alleged insult to a white woman there, the marshal reported to county authorities last night.

Marshal Wingate said that he entered the jail about 10 o'clock with a blanket and some food for the prisoner. He heard some one walking in the corridor, he said, turned around and found that he was facing the muzzle of a pistol. He said the men took his keys, locked him in a cell and took the negro away in an automobile. His cries brought aid, he said. The negro is still missing.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS

MAY 27 1924

NEGROES LYNCHED BY A FLORIDA MOB

Charged With Attacking Two School Girls

ONE TAKEN FROM JAIL

Another Caught on Train in Railroad Yards

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BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
MAY 26, 1924

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED BY MOB IN FLORIDA

Fort Meyers, Fla., May 26—Bubbers Wilson and Wilton Williams, about 20 years old, met death at the hands of mobs here early today, following their identification as the negroes who yesterday attacked two young white girls.

Wilson was taken from the Sheriff shortly after he was arrested. Williams was removed from a northbound freight train. They were riddled with bullets and dragged through the streets.

WHITES HOLD LYNCHING BEE IN FLORIDA

Pale-Face Barbarians Go on Spree

Fort Myers, Fla., May 30.—Church services here were suspended Sunday in order to form a mob which later lynched two men accused of

2 NEGROES LYNCHED BY FORT MYERS MOB

ANOTHER LYNCHING IN FLORIDA

Fort Meyers, Fla., June 20.—"Bub" Wilson and Wilton Williams, Negroes, about 20 years old, met death at the hands of mobs here early today. Wilson was taken from the sheriff soon after he was arrested and Williams was removed from a northbound freight train. Their bodies were riddled with bullets and dragged thru the streets.

JUN 10 1924

Florida Negro Is Missing After Mob Opens Jail

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 10.—Ten robed and masked men last night locked Owen C. Wingate, the town marshal of Pablo, near here, in the jail at the place, relieved him

NEGRO SLAIN BY POSSE AFTER KILLING OFFICER

Shot Policeman Who Sought to Arrest Him.

VALDOSTA, Ga., Sept. 1.—According to a dispatch from Jasper, Fla., to the Valdosta Times, Warren Wood, young negro, was killed by a posse of Jasper citizens who had been searching for the negro after he ran amuck and shot and killed Policeman H. F. Knowles.

The dispatch said the negro's body was burned afterward.

The negro, says the dispatch, had been drinking and causing a disturbance. The officer went to the home of Wood's employer, H. S. Horn, in an effort to arrest the negro, who had taken refuge there. Upon seeing the officer approach the negro is said to have run into the house and with Mr. Horn's gun, opened fire.

A posse soon formed and the negro finally was driven from the house and killed on the porch of the Horn home.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

F. Lynching

JUL 22 1924

FLORIDA POSSE HUNTS FOR NEGROES' BODIES

Clermont, Fla., July 21.—A posse headed by county officers today was searching the lake region in the southern part of this county for the bodies of two unidentified negroes said to have been shot to death by a party of white men following report that the negroes had made insulting remarks to a white woman Saturday night.

According to reports received here the shooting is said to have occurred in the vicinity of Clermont shortly after the woman was accosted by the negroes on the highway. Although the search was begun yesterday, no trace of the bodies had been found up to a late hour today.

FLA. MOB CELEBRATES BY BURNING BOY 17

Jasper, Fla., Sept. 5.—Again white supremacy, 100 per cent Americanism and civilization demonstrated itself in this city when a mob of 500 white citizens from Jasper and adjoining territory celebrated the last day of August by taking a human being from the authorities and burning him at the stake.

Warren Wood, 17-year-old farm boy, who after having been driven away from his home on some slight pretext by Policeman H. F. Knowles, another 100 per center intrusted with the sacred duty of protecting human life and property, but who forgot duty at the sight of color, found himself cornered and turned upon the officer with fatal results for Knowles. At once word was flashed throughout the town that a white man had been slain by a "N——." White citizens, already eager for a man hunt, quickly formed what Southerners delight in calling a posse, but what is more accurately described as a mob, and started in pursuit.

Warren was soon caught and as quickly murdered. His death did not satisfy the white exponents of civilization; the body was dragged to the main street of the city and after ringing the town fire bell to arouse all of the women and children who had not attended the killing a bonfire was built, oil was poured over the boy's body, already riddled with bullets, and torches were set to it while the crowd danced around singing the national anthem and shouting with glee.

When the blaze died down there was a mad scramble in the ashes for human bones to be kept as souvenirs. Festivities over, the crowd dispersed to prepare for church and to worship.

POSSE KILLS AND BURNS MAN

VALDOSTA, Ga., Sept. 1.—According to a despatch from Jasper, Fla., to the Valdosta Times, Warren Wood, a young colored man, was killed by a posse of Jasper citizens and his body burned. The posse had been searching for him after he ran amuck and shot and killed Ponceman H. F. Knowles, who sought to arrest him for drinking and causing a disturbance.

SEP 2 1924

NEGRO KILLED AND HIS BODY CREMATED: HAD SHOT TOWN MARSHAL TO DEATH

Valdosta, Ga., Sept. 1.—After killing Marshal H. F. Knowles of Jasper, Fla., late Sunday afternoon, Warren Woods, a negro, was killed by a posse of white people and his bullet riddled body carried a short distance from the center of the town, to a clump of woods where a funeral pyre was erected and the body cremated to vent the indignation of the people over the negro's cold-blooded murder of the officer.

Woods was employed as a kind of house servant for L. S. Horne, and about breakfast time it was thought that the negro was drinking, but through the morning he behaved himself. After leaving the Horne house during the afternoon the man began to act wild and created a disturbance which attracted the attention of town marshal.

When the officer started to arrest Woods the negro ran, pursued by Knowles. Woods ran to the Horne house and before it was known what he intended to do, he seized a shot gun from the house and rushed to the front porch and shot the officer dead as he was entering the porch.

The shooting attracted a large crowd of people and an attempt was made to arrest the negro, but he fought the crowd wildly, being apparently crazed by moonshine liquor. In the fight which followed Woods was shot down on almost the same spot where he killed the officer.

Immediately after this the negro's body was riddled with bullets and then taken to a clump of woods where a pyre was hastily built and the body was burned to a crisp.

The negro had been employed by Mr. Horne for several months and had heretofore conducted himself in a very orderly manner never giving offense of any kind. His unusual conduct, preceding the tragedy was credited to moonshine whisky.

Lynchings—1924
Cases of.

1600

MOB IN CRISP COUNTY HANGS NEGRO CONVICT

Cordele, Ga., March 19.—A mob of from 50 to 75 citizens last night forcibly took John Hayes, negro trusty in the Crisp county chaingang, from Guards Parker and Peterson of the county force and riddled his body with bullets after bringing him up to a tree at Coney bridge. The officers were attempting to escape with Hayes into Bibb county, following his arrest on a charge of attempted attack upon a small girl.

The negro was said to have enticed the girl on a pretense that he would catch a pigeon for her. The child was not injured.

A coroner's jury today reached a verdict that the negro came to his death at hands of persons unknown. The attempted assault occurred early yesterday afternoon.

MOB HANGS NEGRO

John Hayes Taken From Guards; Body Riddled With Bullets

CORDELE, GA., March 19.—A mob of from 50 to 75 citizens last night forcibly took John Hayes, negro trusty from two guards and riddled his body with bullets after hanging him to a tree at Coney Bridge. The officers were attempting to escape with Hayes into Bibb county following his arrest on a charge of attempting to attack a girl.

The negro was said to have enticed the girl on a pretense that he would catch a pigeon for her. The child was not injured.

NEGRO BOY SHOOTS POLICE CHIEF; BODY IN RIVER

Negro Was Caught In Bank Where He Had Secreted Himself

WOODBURY, GA., April 3.—Chief of Police Albert S. Wells was shot and probably fatally wounded here today by "Bootsy" Thrash, 15 year old negro. Sheriff J. P. Jarrah said the negro boy had been taken from the police station and expressed the belief that his body would be found in Flint river.

The negro, who was employed by a local negro, was surprised by the chief during the lunch hour, the officer having secreted himself there at the request of the bank officials who said someone had been entering the institution and taking money during the regular closing period at noon.

Chief Wells was rushed to an Atlanta hospital and Sheriff Jarrah, from the county seat at Greenville, is in charge of the situation.

Mob Kills Negro Boy Who Shot Policeman

Woodbury, Ga., April 3.—(Special.)—Albert Wells, chief of police here, is believed to be dying at an Atlanta hospital from a bullet wound in his head, and Beach Thrash, 15, Negro boy, is now dead at the hands of a crowd of men, the result of the alleged shooting of the officer by the Negro.

The boy is said to have confessed the shooting, which he said occurred when Wells arrested him at the Peoples' Bank of Woodbury on charges of taking money.

Reports were that the boy had been suspected of taking money from the bank for several days. The bank closes during the noon hour, and the Negro was thought to have entered then.

Wells is said to have entered the bank to watch. The Negro came in and took money, Wells says. The officer arrested him, and when the telephone of the bank rang the man is said to have laid his gun aside. The Negro grabbed it and shot the officer, it is reported.

He was arrested and lodged in jail here. A crowd of men broke the jail, took the Negro towards Flint River and killed him before he could be moved by officials to Meriwether County jail.

Albert Wells, police chief of Woodbury, Ga., was lying at the point of death at Davis-Fischer hospital early tonight, after being rushed here from Woodbury, Ga. Officials stated that he could not recover. The bullet entered the forehead just above the right eye, penetrated the brain and came out the back of the man's head, they stated. The can is said to have been shot by Beach Thrash, young Negro.

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White Mob Lynches 14-Year-Old Ga. Youth

WOODBURY, Ga., April 10—"Lynch Law" asserted itself again in the dreamy little village last week, when a mob of vicious whites took 14 year old Beach Thrash from the flimsy county jail and wantonly murdered him, throwing his dead body in Flint river.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY GEORGIA MOB

Police Chief Shot and Probably Fatally Wounded.

IN ATLANTA HOSPITAL

Beach Thrash, Fifteen Years of Age, Caught in Woodbury Bank.

Woodbury, Ga., April 3.—Beach Thrash, 15 year old negro boy, was taken from the city jail here today and lynched by a mob after he had shot and perhaps fatally wounded Chief of Police, Albert Wells, who had arrested him for stealing money from a local bank.

The police chief, who was rushed to an Atlanta hospital, was reported in a dying condition tonight.

The negro, who was employed by the bank, was surprised by Chief Wells as he entered the institution at the lunch hour today, it being customary for the bank to be closed at the time. Officials had complained to the police that some one was taking money out of the bank when they were absent and the chief had secreted himself to catch the thief.

The officer ordered Thrash to throw up his hands. Just at that moment the telephone in the bank rang and the chief went to answer it, whereupon the negro wrested the officer's pistol from his hand and shot him down. The negro fled but shortly afterwards was arrested by a posse and placed in the city jail.

He later was seized by a small band of men, taken to the banks of the Flint river, nearby, and hanged in a clump of woods. His body was found dangling to the tree by Sheriff Jarrah, who hurried here from Greenville to take charge of the situation.

Atlanta, Ga., April 3.—Chief of Police Albert Wells of Woodbury, Ga. 75 miles from here, tonight was believed to be near death and physicians at the local hospital to which he was brought had resorted to a blood transfusion in a last attempt to save his life.

LYNCH NEGRO BOY AT WOODBURY, GA.

Taken From Jail by Mob After Perhaps Fatally Wounding Police Chief

WOODBURY, Ga., April 3.—Beach Thrash, 16-year-old negro boy, was taken from the city jail here today and lynched by a mob after he had shot and perhaps fatally wounded Chief of Police Albert Wells, who had arrested him for stealing money from a local bank.

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ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

APR 4 1924

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ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
Georgian
MAR 20 1924

Convict Is Lynched In Crisp County

CORDELE, Ga., March 19.—The body of John Hays, trusty prisoner in the Crisp County Convict Camp who was charged Tuesday with attacking the five-year-old daughter of an assistant camp warden, was found hanging by the neck and bullet-ridden near Coney's Bridge, in the Western part of this county.

Camp Guards Parker and Peterson were rushing the negro to the Bibb County Convict Camp Tuesday night when, they said, they were halted by a mob of nearly 100 men and their prisoner taken from them. They reported the affair to the Sheriff's office and the body of the suspect was found Wednesday morning.

ATLANTA GA. JOURNAL

ADD A - 1922

WOODBURY [illegible] DIES FROM WOUND HIS SLAYER RIDDLED

Albert S. Wells, chief of police of Woodbury, Ga., died early Friday at Davis-Fischer sanitorium from a bullet wound inflicted Thursday afternoon by a negro boy named "Bootsy" Thrash, whom he had caught rifling a cash drawer in the People's bank, of Woodbury.

Mr. Wells was brought to the hospital late Thursday and surgeons immediately operated to remove the bullet from his head, but his condition was desperate, and he lapsed into unconsciousness, and death resulted soon after daybreak.

Chief Wells was shot with his own pistol. Officials of the bank for some days had been missing small sums of money from cash drawers and suspicion fell on the negro, Thrash, who did odd jobs about the bank. Thursday noon the chief secreted himself in the bank when the place closed while the employes were out at lunch. He said he saw Thrash enter by a rear door, using a pass key, and watched him while he took money from a cash drawer.

The chief then arrested the boy and said he was preparing to take him to jail when he put down his pistol to answer the telephone. The negro snatched the weapon and fired at the officer, the bullete entering his head.

Citizens, hearing the shot, surrounded the bank and captured Thrash, placing him in the local jail, but when Sheriff J. P. Jarrell arrived from Greenville soon after, the jail door had been forced open and the negro was missing. His bullet-riddled body was found afterward on the outskirts of Woodbury. Sheriff Jarrell on Friday was reported in dispatches from Woodbury as conducting an investigation.

Mr. Wells' body will be taken to Woodbury Friday afternoon for funeral and interment, definite arrangements awaiting the arrival of relatives.

1 Killed, 1 Wounded In Whipping, Raid

GRIFFIN, Ga., June 21.—Penny Westmoreland, a negro woman, is dead here and Mark Westmoreland, son of the dead woman, is fatally wounded as result of an effort to administer a whipping.

The woman was shot through the body and was dead when found by the officers. The boy was shot in two places, once through the right lung. He was carried to a local hospital early Tuesday by Sheriff W. T. Freeman. The shooting took place in Union District of this county Monday night.

Judge T. J. Purdy, acting as Coroner, called an inquest and as a result three white men of this county are being held in the Spalding County jail without bond. Those who are charged with the killing of the woman and the wounding of the boy are William Pendley, Raymond Butler and Glenn Gullege.

It is supposed that there were nine men in the party that went to the house of the Westmoreland woman. Those in the house declared they recognized the three who are held in jail.

It is supposed that the party went to the negro house to administer a whipping to some of the negroes living there and when they met with resistance, opened fire.

*

[illegible] MEN [illegible] WITH MURDER

Said To Have Shot Into Negro's Home, Killing Woman

Griffin, Ga., July 2 (Preston News Service)—Glenn Gullege, Raymond Shockley and Bill Rogers, three white men, were arrested Tuesday and lodged in the county jail on warrants charging murder in connection with the shooting to death of Mrs. Penny Westmoreland, colored, and the wounding of her aged husband and son by a mob.

A search was made Tuesday for other members of the alleged party which Westmoreland said, numbered eight or ten. According to Westmoreland's statement the men came to his home Monday night and opened fire on the occupants without warning. About 15 shots were said to have been fired.

After the wounded persons had positively identified the three men held as members of the attacking party, the coroner's jury returned a verdict that Penny Westmoreland came to her death by pistol wounds fired by members of a mob, and among members of the mob were Gullege, Shockley, Rogers and others, not identified.

No motive has been determined for the affair.

colored man living in Union District, about two miles west of Sunny Side, fired about fifteen shots at random and otherwise ransacked the home. The Negro's wife, Penny Westmoreland, was killed outright and one of his sons, Marcus Westmoreland, was seriously injured, while Westmoreland himself was slightly injured.

Three Are Identified

Officers from Griffin hurried to the scene and rounded up a number of men who were thought to be members of the mob. Glenn Gulledge, Raymond Shockley and Bill Rogers, all white men residing in that vicinity, were identified by Westmoreland and his family as members of the party. They were brought to Griffin and lodged in the Spalding County jail. Warrants charging murder were sworn out against them. They deny knowledge of the crime.

No Motive Advanced

No reason whatsoever has been advanced for the outrageous action of Monday afternoon. Tilden J. Jurdy, N. P. and J. P., acting coroner in the absence of W. J. Morrow, who could not be located at the time, summoned a jury and returned a verdict that "Penny Westmoreland came to her death by pistol wounds fired by members of the mob, and among the members of the mob were Glenn Gulledge, Raymond Shockley, Bill Rogers and others not identified."

Westmoreland lived on the old George Smith place with his wife and twelve children. Several white men who knew him, when interviewed, said that Westmoreland was of good general character and they could conceive of no motive at all for the crime. Officers stated that no traces of whiskey were noticeable when the men held were arrested, which adds to the mystery of the case.

Place Is Rummaged

The place was rummaged and in a disorderly condition when agents of justice arrived. They reported that they found the dead woman lying in the kitchen with several bullet wounds in her chest, head and other places.

The younger Westmoreland was a grown young man and married. He was shot in the thigh, back and one of the bullets penetrated his left lung. He is at the Griffin hospital and his condition is regarded as critical. Reports from the hospital Tuesday morning stated that he was barely living, but no further reports relative to his condition were obtained.

One bullet grazed one of the elderly Westmoreland's arms, but he escaped serious injury. The other members of his family fled from the marauders and were not hurt.

Citizens of Spalding County are very much excited over the brutal actions of the mob, and it is sincerely hoped that the guilty persons will all be apprehended soon and speedily brought to justice.—Grifin Daily News and Sun.

Mob Enters Home of John Westmoreland, Elderly Negro of Union District, and Shoots At Random.

THREE WHITE MEN HELD FOR MURDER

Men Held Deny Knowledge of Shooting—Westmoreland Was Of Good General Character, It Is Reported

Griffin, Ga.—One of the most brutal and atrocious crimes ever commited in Spalding County, according to officials, occurred about dusk Monday afternoon when a mob of eight or ten white men are said to have entered the home of John Westmoreland, an elderly

Lynchings—1924
Cases of.

Illinois.

1601

OCTOBER 9, 1924

CHICAGO MOB BEATS TO DEATH NEGRO ACCUSED OF ATTACKING GIRL

CHICAGO, Oct. 8.—William Bell, hirty-two, Negro, was beaten to eath by a crowd of men and boys n the west side here to-night after had been charged with assault on young girl.

The screams of the girl attracted he attention of men near the scene. The Negro fled, but was pursued and overtaken by the crowd, which beat him to death with a baseball bat.

One of the first men to join the crowd was a man armed with the bat. More than a hundred men and boys surrounded the Negro, who made frantic efforts to break through the crowd, which kicked and struck him down. He was dying when rescued by a squad of policemen, who rushed him to a hospital.

Afterward police seized a score of men and boys who were held for questioning.

The frenzy of the crowd was increased during the attack on the negro by the cries of his intended victim, a white foreign girl living in the neighborhood, who said her assailant threatened her with death if she screamed.

The crowd was composed principally of foreigners living in the neighborhood, where feeling has been tense because of the influx of Negroes. It dispersed after the police arrived and authorities expected no recurrence of trouble.

MOB RUNS WILD WHEN GIRLS MAKE FALSE OUTCRY; MURDERS

The anger of hundreds of citizens residing in the Maxwell St. district, scene of the recent mobbing of William Bell, 33, 1057 Frank St., was appeased Friday when Otto Epstein (white), 1011 W. 14th St., and Irving Rockowitz (also white), 1405 Newberry Ave., were both held to the grand jury for the slaying of Bell, who was beaten to death with a baseball bat and left on the pavement in front of 1362 Miller St., Oct. 8, shortly after 11 p. m.

William Bell

The verdict rendered by a coroner's jury under Deputy Coroner Davis of the county morgue came as a distinct surprise to the large mixed crowd which packed the inquest room. The verdict was to the effect that "William Bell came to his death from a blow with a baseball bat held in the hands of Otto Epstein and we recommend that Epstein be held to the grand jury on a charge of murder and further recommend that Irving Rockowitz be held as accessory until released by due process of law."

Epstein was held on the testimony of Albert Harper, 1045 W. 14th St., who declared he was with Bell at the time he was struck with the bat, and positively identified Epstein as the one who hit him. Just before he struck Bell, Harper said, Epstein approached with two other youths and asked, "What are you looking for?" and without waiting for a reply, struck him in the face with his right fist. In his left hand was the bat, Harper said. "Just after he had hit me, I saw him change the bat from his left to his right hand and then he hit William with it. I fled home," Harper added.

Attorneys for Epstein sought to shake Harper's testimony, especially his positive identification of the accused youth, but in vain. Capt. David C. Fitzgerald, commanding the Maxwell St. police station, said that Harper followed Epstein to the station and picked him out from three or four other men lined up for identification in the cell room of the station.

Rockowitz was held as accessory on his statement to the police that he was in the Shapiro wine store at 14th and Miller Sts. when Miss Betty Greenblatt, 1031 Maxwell St., and Miss Bertha Deutsch, 1357 Miller St., the two white girls over whom the killing of Bell occurred, rushed into the place and reported that two men had tried to kidnap them.

In his statement, Rockowitz said that he went across the street to two men not white and that one of them who was tall with a black mustach struck him. He hit him back, he said, and retreated to the wine shop, where Epstein and several others were. Bell was slain immediately after this incident.

Confident of Release

On advice of counsel, neither Epstein nor Rockowitz testified at the inquest. During the proceedings both seemed confident of their release by the jury. They laughed and jested with friends, especially with the Misses Greenblatt and Deutsch. They even exchanged friendly badinage with the police officers in charge. While the jury was out on its 30 minutes' deliberation of the verdict, the youths, between puffs of their cigarets, joked with the Defender photographer about taking their pictures.

Their demeanor changed, however, to one of grave seriousness when they heard the jury's verdict.

The two girls told the same story at the inquest which they had previously related to the police when questioned at the station following the death of Bell, whom they failed to identify as the man who, they said, had frightened them with an exhibition of money and an insulting remark while they stood in front of Miss Deutsch's home.

The girls also admitted, on cross-examination, that two white men in a Ford car had accosted them insultingly. This admission had been previously forced from Miss Greenblatt when she was questioned at the Maxwell St. station by a Defender reporter. Then came the disclosure that Bell was the wrong man and the belief that no one of our Race had approached the girls.

CHICAGO ILL. POST
OCTOBER 9, 1924

WRONG MAN KILLED BY FRENZIED MOB, POLICE DECLARE

Actual Assailant of Girl Is Said to Have Escaped in an Auto.

That the ghetto mob, which in mad frenzy lynched a negro accused of molesting two white girls last night, killed the wrong man, was the belief of police today as they pressed a rigid investigation to apprehend the slayers and restore peace and quiet in the disturbed district.

Their belief is based on the failure of the two girls to identify the body of the slain negro as that of their annoyer, and on the stories of the victims' companions who assert two negroes in an automobile accosted the white girls.

The police, however, are not overlooking the possibility that the victim may have been the man, according to Acting Captain David Fitzgerald.

"After their experience last night it is difficult for these girls to identify a corpse," the captain said.

The slain man was William Bell, 33 years old, 1057 Frank street, a married man. He was alleged to have attempted to drag Miss Betty Greenblatt, 1071 Maxwell street, who was accompanied by Miss Bertha Deutsch, 1357 Miller street, into an areaway near Miller and 14th streets.

Girls' Shrieks Rouse Mob.

According to reports, the negro seized Miss Greenblatt by the arm. As he did so, she and Miss Deutsch screamed. Their cries startled the cosmopolitan neighborhood and brought youths and middle-aged men to their aid. In a minute an angry mob of 200 men had gathered.

In another minute 200 shouting, cursing, howling lynchers were kicking, jumping and pounding on a prostrate form. In the hands of one was a bat. It was this instrument which actually caused Bell's death, police say.

Twenty Arrests Made.

Maxwell street police squads seized twenty persons, including the girls named; also Otto Epstein, 1011 West 14th street, who is alleged, despite his denials, to have wielded the bat, and Thomas Clark and Al Harper, 1043 and 1045 West 13th street, respectively. The latter two, negroes, were with Bell when he was attacked. They identified Epstein as the man who struck Bell with the bat.

According to the story of Harper and Clark, it was two other negroes, in an automobile, who tried to flirt with Misses Greenblatt and Deutsch, and not Bell.

After they had detailed the attack they were released, as was everyone else except Epstein.

The Greenblatt girl was recalled to the Maxwell street station today and questioned at length by Capt. Fitzgerald.

A squad of policemen also visited Epstein's place where they found five baseball bats. He explained their presence by saying boys in the neighborhood frequently left their bats there.

NEW YORK CITY NEWS
OCTOBER 27. 1924

Graphic

LYNCH LAW CLAIMS INNOCENT VICTIM

(The GRAPHIC'S Daily Photo-Drama From Life)

THE FRIGHTENED SCREAMING of Miss Betty Greenblatt and Miss Bertha Deutch when William Bell, negro, passed them by in Chicago's [illegible] rends the air.

AN ANGRY MOB gathers, athirst for vengeance. Bell's fearful protest mounts to a blood-curdling cry. The mob does not stop to investigate the nature of his offense but speedily beats and kicks Bell almost to death, when—

RUSHING THROUGH THE MOB come the police, fighting their way to Bell with raised clubs. But they have come too late. Lynch law has already claimed another life. The horror of the situation is intensified when—

AT THE MORGUE, later, the two young women who caused the uproar that meant death to Bell fail to identify him and murmur, "There must be some mistake!" There is no more terrible crime than inciting a mob!

NEGRO IN CHICAGO BEATEN TO DEATH WITH BASEBALL BAT

Chicago, October 8.—William Bell, 32, negro, was beaten to death by a crowd of men and boys on the west side here tonight after he had been charged with assault on a young girl.

The screams of the girl as she was seized by the negro, attracted the attention of a number of men near the scene. The negro fled, but was pursued and overtaken by the crowd, which beat him to death with a baseball bat.

One of the first men to join the crowd was armed with the bat. More than a hundred men and boys surrounded the negro, who made frantic efforts to break through the crowd which kicked and struck him down. He was dying when rescued by a squad of policemen, who rushed him to a hospital.

The crowd was composed principally of foreigners living in the neighborhood where feeling has been tense because of the influx of negroes into the district. It dispersed after the police arrived and authorities expected no reoccurrence of trouble.

After the police had taken Bell to the hospital, other squads seized a score of men and boys who were held for questioning.

The frenzy of the crowd was increased during the attack on the negro by the cries of his intended victim, a white foreign girl living in the neighborhood, who said her assailant threatened her with death if she screamed.

Squads of policemen sent into the district to prevent the assembling of crowds, reported the situation was quiet and there was no expectation of any rioting similar to that of July, 1919, when crowds of whites and negroes clashed in the negro sections of the South Side and several persons were killed.

ENRAGED CHICAGO MOB CLUBS NEGRO UNTIL HE IS DEAD

Luckless Black Attacks Young White Girl Whose Screams Bring Crowd to Avenge Assault; Score Held

CHICAGO, Oct. 8.—William Bell, 32, negro, was beaten to death by a crowd of men and boys on the West Side here tonight after he had been charged with assault on a young girl.

The screams of the girl, as she was seized by the negro, attracted the attention of a number of men near the

GIRLS UNCERTAIN SLAIN MAN WAS THEIR ASSAILANT

Watchman Accused by 2 as Bell's Slayer.

(Pictures on back page.)

Possibility that rioters in the Maxwell street district on Wednesday night killed the "wrong man" was indicated yesterday following a police investigation. The two girls, whose story that they had been insulted resulted in a mob beating to death William Bell, colored, of 1057 Frank street, could not positively identify the body of Bell as their assailant.

"The Negro who accosted us did look very much like Bell—that is, he was dressed similarly—but I can't be sure it was Bell," declared Miss Bertha Deutsch, 1357 Miller street, one of the girls. Her companion, Miss Betty Greenblatt, 1071 Maxwell street, was equally uncertain.

Call Watchman Slayer.

Three men, one white and two colored, are being held by Maxwell street police pending the inquest this morning. The white man, Otto Epstein, watchman in the sacramental wine shop of George Shapiro, 1014 West 14th street, was pointed out as the actual slayer of Bell.

Epstein had appeared at the police station immediately after the killing. "There's a riot over on Miller street," he exictedly told the desk sergeant. "A man's been killd."

Accused by Colored Man.

"Yes, and it was you who killed him," declared Thomas Clark, colored, 1043 West 13th street, pointing at Epstein. Clark said he had witnessed the trouble and had followed Epstiin to the station. Clark was detained for further questioning.

An angry crowd had quickly surrounded Bell and two colored companions when it was suspected that it was Bell who insulted the girls. Wittnesses declared that Bell's slayer ran up with a baseball bat and struck the colored man a terrific blow upon the head.

Capt. Fitzgerald insisted yesterday he had no need of reserve police as no indication of furthr trouble was apparent.

Lynchings—1924.

Illinois.

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Cases of.

BELIEVE CHICAGO MOB LYNCHED WRONG MAN

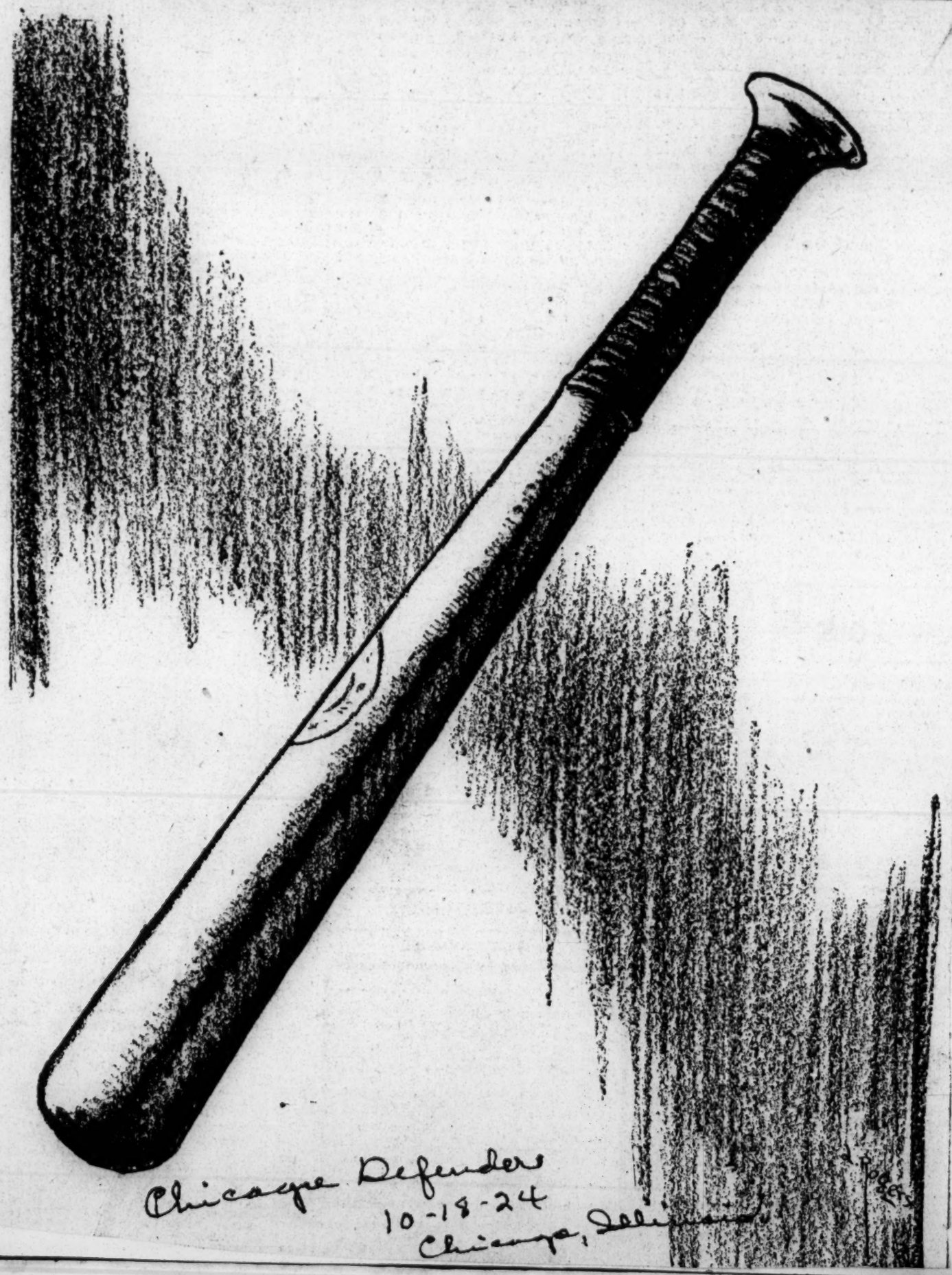
Chicago, October 9.—Possibility that the wrong man was lynched when a mob last night beat to death William Bell, negro, after two girls had been stopped by a negro who seized one of them by the arm, was seen today when the two young women were unable to identify the body as that of their assailant.

Otton Epstein, manager of a sacramental wine shop in the Ghetto where the attack and lynching occurred, was accused by two negroes as the man who killed Bell with a baseball bat. Epstein denied the charge. 10-10-24

The Ghetto swarmed into action when Miss Betty Greenblatt and Miss Bertha Deutsch screamed. Bell was surrounded by a crowd that quickly beat, kicked and trampled him. He died on the way to a hospital.

Thomas Clark and Albert Harper, negroes, said they had been talking with Bell and had only started to leave him when they heard the girls' screams and saw the mob forming. They fled

The Latest in Lynching Implements



Chicago Defender
10-18-24
Chicago, Illinois

Lynchings-1924.
Cases.

Illinois.

1565

NEW YORK CITY HERALD
OCTOBER 10, 1924

Girls Fail to Identify Victim of Chicago Mob

Wrong Negro Believed Beaten to Death; Man Held as Wielder of Baseball Bat

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—Possibility that the wrong man was beaten to death by a mob last night, after two girls had been stopped by a negro, who seized one of them by the arm, was seen today when the two young women were unable to identify the body of William Bell as that of their assailant.

Otto Epstein, manager of a sacramental wine shop in the ghetto, where the attack occurred, was accused by two negroes as the man who killed Bell with a baseball bat. Epstein denied the charge.

The ghetto swarmed into action when Miss Betty Greenblatt and Miss Bertha Deutsch screamed. Bell was surrounded by a crowd that quickly beat, kicked and trampled him. He died on the way to a hospital. After a perfunctory examination to-day Epstein was held for further questioning.

CHICAGO WHITES IN FRENZY LYNCH INNOCENT MAN

White Men Atacked White Girls, Black Man Blamed

BASEBALL BATS USED

Man, Laborer, on Way Home to Wife and Children, Killed.

Report, Chicago Branch,
N. A. A. C. P. Secretary,
Morris Lewis:

"Lynched wrong man. Girls were stopped by two white men in Ford automobile. One grabbed street to wine shop and reported to gang there.

"Bell, a laborer [illegible] way home, (was) accosted by whips [illegible] demanding what he was doing talking to those women. Was ignorant of incident. Without warning was set upon, beaten with baseball bat and trampled. Maxwell district noted for race disturbances and police indifference."

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 16.—(A. N. P.)—William Bell, 33, was beaten to death by a mob in a foreign district of the city into which a large number of Negroes have recently moved, Wednesday night. At the time of the murder the mob, unwilling to listen to his explanation, accussed him of being guilty of flirting with two white girls. He died from being struck over the head with a baseball bat.

Police arrived too late. Twenty members of the mob were arrested after the man's life had been taken. Only three were kept in jail. Otto Epstein, white, watchman in a Sacramental wine shop; George Bell, brother of the victim and Thomas Clark, a witness. Clark is a Negro.

Clark and Bell both denied that the man killed was guilty of the alleged flirtation. Later, the girls, Miss Bertha Deutsch, 21, and Miss Betty Greenblatt, failed to identify William Bell as the man who had accosted them. They are said to have not known whether the man who spoke to them was white or colored. The dead man was a light colored man.

Miss Greenblatt explained that she had not expected murder to be committed when, after being accosted by some man, she had gone into the wine shop to ask a friend she thought might be there, to accompany Miss Deutsch home. When she learned of what the men had done, she was extremely sorry that she had said anything at all.

There is division of opinion in the city as to whether Chicago is to be accused of a lynching. The Tribune and other papers found convenience in describing the murder as a lynching. The Chicago Daily News did not carry the story at all. Bell was killed. The facts point to him having been innocent of any guilt.

The crime occurred after midnight when there were no policemen around. The blow across the head with the bat proved fatal. It is believeable that he would not have received more than a severe beating but for the bat incident. Epstein, charged with weilding the bat, is in custody. Bell's murder seems to be more like that that any white man in a white district, colored man in a Negro district, or either man in either sort of district, might be the victim of in an early morning fight. If Bell was lynched, it is just as easy to say that a white policeman was lynched at the Northern Lights Cafe a few weeks ago.

[illegible] WORLD
OCTOBER 10, 1924

MOB KILLED WRONG NEGRO, GIRLS FEAR

Chicago Stenographers Fail to Identify Man Beaten to Death With Ball Bat.

FRIENDS CLAIM INNOCENCE.

Police Hunt Suspects and Act to Prevent Race War.

From The World's Bureau
Special Despatch to The World

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—The mob that beat to death William Bell, a Negro, early this morning at 14th and Miller Streets in the heart of the west side "bad lands," in the belief that he attempted to assault two young white girls, probably killed the wrong man.

The police say the girls, Betty Deutsch and Bertha Greenblatt, stenographers, have failed to identify Bell.

The girls were on their way home after midnight. In front of the Deutsch home at No. 1357 Miller Street they paused to chat. A Negro ran up and said according to Miss Deutsch, "come across the street. I have lots of money and an automobile."

The girls shrank back, the man seized Miss Deutsch by the arm and shoulder and started to drag her across the street, they declared. Both screamed. A dozen men in a nearby sacramental wine shop heard the screams and ran to the scene.

When the crowd arrived they found Bell. He was knocked down and beaten to death with a baseball bat.

Thomas Clark and Albert Harper, Negroes, said they were with Bell walking past the Deutsch home when they heard the girl's scream and saw a man run away. They ran too, but Bell stood his ground. They saw him surrounded and killed. The girl's could not identify Bell, but said he wore a coat and hat like the man who accosted them.

Otto Epstein, who is connected with the wine shop, is under arrest as the wielder of the bat. He denies it but Harper and Thomas accuse him.

Mayor Dever deplored the killing of Bell and promised to bring the slayers to justice.

Hundreds of police have been sent into the Negro district to prevent race

CHICAGO MOB KILLS NEGRO

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Chicago, Ill., October 15.—William Bell, 33, was beaten to death by a mob in a foreign district of the city into which a large number of Negroes have recently moved Wednesday night. At the time of the murder the mob, unwilling to listen to his explanation, accused him of being guilty of flirting with two white girls. He died from being struck over the head with a baseball bat.

Police arrived too late. Twenty members of the mob were arrested after the man's life had been taken. Only three were kept in jail. Otto Epstein, watchman in a sacramental wine shop; George Bell, brother of the victim and Thomas Clark, a witness. Clark is a Negro.

Clark and Bell both denied that the man killed was guilty of the alleged flirtation. Later, the girls, Miss Bertha Deutsch, 21, and Miss Betty Greenblatt, failed to identify William Bell as the man who had accosted them. They are said to have not known whether the man who spoke to them was white or colored. The dead man was a light colored man.

Miss Greenblatt explained that she had not expected a murder to be committed when after being accosted by some man, she had gone into the wine shop to ask a friend she thought might be there to accompany Miss Deutsch home. When she learned of what the men had done, she was extremely sorry that she had said anything at all.

There is division of opinion in the city as to whether Chicago is to be accused of a lynching. The Tribune and other papers found convenience in describing the murder as a lynching. The Chicago Daily News did not carry the story at all, Bell was killed. The facts point to him having been innocent of any guilt. The crime occurred after midnight when there were no policeman around. The blow across the head with the bat proved fatal. It is believable that he would not have received more than a severe beating but for the bat incident. Epstein, charged with wielding the bat, is in custody. Bell's murder seems to be more like that that any white man in a white district, colored man in a Negro district, or either man in either sort of district, might be the victim of in an early morning fight. If Bell was lynched, it is just as easy to say that a white policeman was lynched at the Northern Lights Cafe a few weeks ago.

Unable Identify Chicago Man

Innocent Man Victim of "Bloodthirsty" Gang, Mayor Dever Promises Justice.

CHICAGO, Ill., Oct. 16.—Sweeping the country like a tidal wave comes the storm of protest and indignation registered against the latest lawless outbreak, which occurred in the heart of Chicago's notorious west side "bad lands."

For now the information leaks out that the mob of hoodlums who brutally assaulted William Bell, a peaceful laborer, clubbed him to death and then pummelled his lifeless body to a jelly-mass of bloody flash—ERRED. The two hysterical white girls, upon whom the blame of the man's death can be directly placed, have failed to identify Bell as the individual who is alleged to have "insulted" them.

The "error" of the girls resulted in the death of an innocent man. Mayor Dever deplores the cowardly assault and killing and promises to bring the slayers to justice. Hundreds of police paraded South Chicago when the news of the crime leaked out, to prevent a repetition of the race riot of several years ago. Feeling ran high, especially when it was discovered that an innocent man had been murdered, and powerful race organizations at once filed protests.

The girls, who are stenographers, told a story of being accosted while on their way home after midnight, by a man who said "come across the street. I have lots of money

and an automobile. The girls raised a hue and cry, and one of the tough groups which infest the vicinity through which the girls were walking, immediately took up the matter. The men, it is said, were in a sacramental wine-shop. When the men arrived, they found no one but Bell. Refusing to even give him a hearing, they knocked him down and set on him. A baseball bat was used, and his skull was fractured with this. As the crowd left the scene, Bell lay in the street, bloody, with his clothes torn almost completely off him, DEAD.

Then came the aftermath, and the inability of the girls to identify the dead man as the one who accosted them. Following this came the rumor that the man who had spoken to them, was not a Negro, but one of their own race.

Thomas Clark and Albert Harper said they were with Bell at this time, and that they heard the two girls scream and saw a man run away. The girls ran too, but Bell stood his ground. Among the organizations who are active, insisting that all the guilty be brought to trial are the Equal Rights League of Boston and the N. A. A. C. P.

The Equal Rights League wired both Mayor Dever and Governor Small of Illinois, voicing a spirited protest. They urge that a searching investigation be conducted and that all the guilty be brought to trial.

CHICAGO ILL. JOURNAL
OCTOBER 9, 1924

MOB LYNCHED WRONG MAN, FRIENDS CLAIM

Belief that the mob which beat to death William Bell, 33, negro, of 1057 Frank street, near Miller and Fourteenth streets, early today, killed the wrong man was expressed as the police investigation got under way.

The dead man was suspected of attempting to attack one of two young white girls, but neither of the girls could identify Bell as the guilty man.

The suspicion that an innocent man may have been murdered was strengthened by stories told by the girls themselves and by two negroes who witnessed the killing.

Beaten with Ball Bat

Bell was beaten with a baseball bat, kicked and trampled when the screams of Miss Betty Greenblatt, 1071 Maxwell street, and her companion, Miss Bertha Deutsch, 21, 1357 Miller street, attracted a crowd of youths from a near-by wine shop.

The killing occurred in front of the Deutsch home, where the negro was alleged to have accosted the girls and attempted to attack Miss Greenblatt.

The girls are typists, Miss Deutsch being employed by the county board of assessors and Miss Greenblatt by Lewald & Co., 330 South Franklin street.

Accosted in Front of Home

According to the girls, they were on their way home shortly after midnight, and were in front of the Deutsch residence when they were accosted by a negro.

"Come on across the street, I have some money and a fine auto," Miss Deutsch says the negro said to her. She attempted to avoid him, but he seized her by the arm and shoulder and started to drag her across the street.

Screams Attract Mob of 200

Both girls then began to scream and several men ran to their aid from the sacramental wine shop of Otto Epstein, 1014 West Fourteenth street, followed by others from all over the neighborhood until the crowd numbered about 200.

When the man saw the white men running to the girls' aid he released Miss Deutsch and started to run.

When the mob arrived they found Bell and kicked and beat him to death.

Witnesses Deny His Guilt

But the witnesses, Thomas Clark, 1043 West Eighteenth street, and Albert Harper, 1045 West Thirteenth street, both negroes, told police that they had been standing on a near-by corner talking with Bell for some time before the killing, and had started to walk down the street past the Deutsch home when they heard the girls scream and the men run out of the wine shop.

Clark and Harper say that they escaped by running when they saw the white men coming, but that Bell apparently became dazed from seeing the men closing in on him from every direction, and paid for his hesitation with his life while the real assailant escaped.

Clothes Like Assailant's

Miss Greenblatt was questioned again shortly before noon, but could add nothing to her original story.

After viewing Bell's body she said that she was not sure as to whether or not he was the man who had accosted her, though Bell wore a light hat and top coat resembling those worn by the man who attempted to attack her.

"I am awfully sorry this man was killed," she said as she left the police station. "Bertha and I never dreamed that anything would come of it when we went into the wine shop to ask one of the boys we expected to find there to see Bertha home.

"It would be all the more terrible if it should be a fact that an innocent man was killed."

Man Held Is Grilled

Meanwhile, Otto Epstein, accused of wielding the baseball bat with which Bell was killed, was being grilled continuously by the police. Late in the day they announced that while he still stoutly maintained his own innocence, he had said that he knew who did strike the blows.

The police expected momentarily to obtain the name of this person from him. It also was revealed that the police have the names of several other alleged ringleaders in the killing and that they are expected to be under arrest before night.

Clark and Harper charge that Epstein was the man who wielded the bat with which Bell was killed. This Eptstein denies and says that it was he who first called the police to the scene.

The mayor said he deplored the killing of Bell.

"We will do all that is in our power to bring those responsible for the act to justice," the mayor said.

All available detectives, working under the direction of Acting Capt. David Fitzgerald, are working on the case to determine the accuracy of the story told by the two negroes.

The girls themselves said that they fled the instant the negro assailant released his grasp on Miss Greenblatt, and did not witness the actual execution of Bell. They said they thought it would have been possible for the guilty man to have escaped and an innocent pedestrian to have fallen into the mob's hands.

They could not identify Bell as their assailant.

NEW YORK CITY [illegible]
OCTOBER 10, 1924

Mob Lynched Wrong Negro, Is Belief

Chicago, Oct. 10.—Possibility that the wrong man was lynched when a mob last night beat to death William Bell, negro, after two girls had been stopped by a negro who seized one of them by the arm, was seen today when the two young women were unable to identify the body as that of their assailant.

NEW YORK CITY POST
OCTOBER 9, 1924

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO; MAY BE WRONG MAN

Chicago Girls Unable to Identify Victim, Beaten to Death, as Assailant

RACE FEELING RUNS HIGH

Chicago, Oct. 9.—Possibility that the wrong man was lynched last night, when a mob beat to death William Bell, negro, after two girls had been stopped by a negro, who seized one of them by the arm, was admitted today. The two young women were unable to identify the body as that of their assailant.

Otto Epstein, manager of a sacramental wine shop in the Ghetto, where the attack accurred, was accused by two negroes as the man who killed bell with a baseball bat. Epstein denied the charge.

The Ghetto swarmed into action when Miss Betty Greenblatt and Miss Berha Deutsch screamed. Bell was surrounded by a crowd that quickly beat, kicked and trampled him. He died on the way to a hospital.

Thomas Clark and Albert Harper, negroes, said they had been talking with Bell and had started to leave him when they heard the girls scream and saw the mob forming. They fled.

Police reserves arrested twenty persons in dispersing the crowd, but released all except Epstein.

Several hundred policemen patrolled the district today, and it was stated that no recurrence of trouble was expected. Race feeling has run high recently because of an influx of negroes into a neighborhood previously populated largely by white foreigners.

In July, 1919, clashes between negroes and white persons, growing out of the slaying of a negro boy at a Chicago bathing beach, caused more than a score of deaths.

INNOCENT VICTIM OF THE MOB

The slaying of an innocent man by a Chicago mob is another of those deplorable affairs that should rouse the advocates of the law designed to prevent lynchings to immediate and renewed activity. A close investigation of the records will show that in a majority of the instances where the savage spirit of the mob holds sway, and men and women are subjected to mob violence, the parties suffering are innocent. The mob will continue to perform so long as there are no rigid laws that would mete out punishment commensurate with the crime. The law makers who have espoused laws which would handle the mobbists through federal authorities have done much, but it appears that there are those who are not sincere enough in their support of the measure to put it over. At this time when the question of selecting men to head our national government, such incidents as the affair in Chicago should be brought to the attention of these men who seek office and their promise to see that protection is accorded our citizens from mob violence should be enacted.

Lynching - 1924
Cases of.

Kentucky.

1559

KENTUCKY MOB BREAKS JAIL

(Preston News Service)

Prestonbury Ky Nov 4.—According to apollie Kid Shannon, age 28, was shot 18 times by a mob estimated to number more than 200 persons, Sunday night at Wayland near here, and died Monday. 11-6-24

It is said that Shannon was charged with the killing of a white man with whom he is said to have had an altercation. It is said that fifteen white men were guarding the jail when Shannon was seized. The chief of police said that all lights in the town were put out just before the man was seized and thus the officials were unable on account of the clouded skiy to see who any of the members of the mob were.

WEST VIRGINIA MOB LYNCHES SUSPECT

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Nov. 3.—A mob battered its way with sledge hammers through the brick walls of the town jail in Wayland, Ky., late last week and dragged Fred Shannon, colored, from his cell, after locking the jailer and town officers in a room, tied the man to a tree and shot him to death, it was learned here today in a telephone message from Sheriff Frank Allen, of Floyd County, Ky. Sheriff Allen arrived in Wayland with a posse of deputies too late to prevent the killing. Shannon was accused of having shot to death William Hitchcock, a white coal miner, in an altercation over liquor.

Lynchings—1924.
Cases of.

Mississippi.

MISSISSIPPI NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB

Meridian, Miss., July 19.—Harry [illegible] negro, was taken from the jail at Scooba, near here, last night by about 35 men and carried about four miles toward DeKalb and lynched. The negro was hanged from a tree limb and his body riddled with bullets. He was said to have attempted assault a white woman living near Electric Mills, a week ago.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

JUL 20 1924

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NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
JULY 20, 1924

Mississippi Mob Lynches Negro Taken from Jail

MERIDAN, Miss. July 19.—Harry Shelton, negro, was taken from the jail at Scooba, near here, last night, by about thirty-five men and lynched. He was hanged from a tree limb and his body riddled with bullets.

He was said to have attempted to attack a white woman a week ago.

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
JULY 20. 1924

NEGRO LYNCHED BY ANGRY MOB

Was Charged With Attack on White Woman.

MERIDIAN, Miss., July 19.—Harry Shelton, young negro, was taken from the jail at Scooba, forty-five miles from here, last night by a mob of approximately fifty unidentified men, and swung to a tree.

The body was riddled with bullets. The lynching followed an alleged attempted assault on a white woman near here. Shelton was arrested at DeKalb, but the authorities, fearing for his safety, took him to Scooba for safe keeping Friday.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY SCOOBA MEN

Black Accused of Attempted Assault Taken from Jail.

Scooba, Miss., July 20.—Feeling ran high here Friday when a negro who was said to have attempted to assault a white woman was forcibly taken from the jail here, carried about three miles west of town and lynched. His body was riddled with bullets.

According to report the negro had recently come here from Chicago. Thursday morning he went to the house and asked the [illegible] her husband was there. She replied in the affirmative and the negro said, "No, he is not, because I have looked through the windows into every room in the house." The woman fled screaming to a neighbor's house. Later she was again accosted in the same way. Later in the afternoon she, accompanied by her nearest neighbor, went to a berry patch and was gathering berries when they discovered the negro hidden among the bushes near the house. They fled and gave the alarm.

A crowd of men at once took up the chase for the black, who at first succeeded in eluding them but was later captured and taken to the DeKalb jail. Friday morning he was brought back to Scooba for trial and placed in jail again. About noon a dozen men went to the jail, broke open the door, rushed the negro to their waiting cars and took him out of town. The negro was hanged from a tree.

ATTACK CAUSES LYNCHING

Mississippi Mob Hangs Negro From Tree Limb.

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The negro was hanged from a tree limb and his body riddled with bullets. He was said to have attempted to attack a woman living near Electric Mills, a week ago.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., New

JUL 21 1924

LYNCHERS STILL FREE

No Arrests Yet Reported At Scooba For Hanging Negro.

SCOOBA, Miss., July 21.—No arrests have yet been made in connection with the lynching of Harry Shelton, negro, Friday afternoon, although members of the mob that took him from the town lockup and carried him to where he is said to have attacked a white woman, were unmasked and the matter has been reported to Sheriff [illegible]. The lynching occurred about 1:30 o'clock and after hanging the negro the dozen or more men riddled the body with [illegible].

NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN MISSISSIPPI

Clarksdale, Miss., September 20.—Herbert Taylor, negro, a trusty convict at Camp B, of the Parchman state convict farm, was lynched by a mob near Lambert, Miss., last night for an alleged attack upon the small daughter of a convict guard, it was learned here tonight.

According to the announcement made by local authorities the negro was taken from Sheriff McArthur, of Quitman county, marched into the woods and shot to death.

The alleged victim of the negro's attack is only four years old. Her father is a guard at Camp B, where Taylor was serving a sentence. Taylor was a "trusty," and was accorded many liberties and privileges about the camp.

Local authorities said the attack occurred yesterday. Sheriff McArthur, aided by deputies, arrested Taylor and decided to bring him to Clarksdale for safekeeping.

As the party neared Marks, Miss., the sheriff reported, they encountered a mob which had blocked the road. Turning quickly, the sheriff and his party returned to Lambert and took another road for Clarksdale, only to discover that their highway also was guarded by armed men. The party then started for Jonestown, hoping to elude the mob, but before they reached that place they were overtaken by a number of men who fired upon the sheriff's car.

The sheriff stopped his automobile and the mob closed in on the little party. Forcing the negro from the sheriff's machine, the mob marched him into the woods a short distance from the road, where his body was riddled with bullets.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY MOB FOR ASSAULT

Convict Trusty Dies for Attacking Four Year Old Girl Near Lambert, Mississippi

CLARKSDALE, MISS., Sept. 20.—Herbert Taylor, negro, a trusty convict at Camp B, of the Parchman state convict farm, was lynched by a mob near Lambert, Miss., last night for an alleged attack upon the small daughter of a convict guard, it was learned here tonight.

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ATLANTA, GA. Constitution
SEP 21 1924

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NEGRO SLAIN BY MOB AFTER BRUTAL ATTACK

Taken From Sheriff Near Jonestown, Miss., Shot.

VICTIM IS CHILD, AGED 4

Determined Mobs Thwart Efforts of Officers to Land Negro in Jail and Fire on Car, Forcing Surrender of Black.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Sept. 20.—Determined mobs thwarted every effort of officers to land in jail a negro trusty convict who brutally assaulted a four year-old child yesterday evening, and shot the black to death near Jonestown, Miss., about 10 o'clock last night, after forcing Sheriff T. A. McArthur, of Quitman County to surrender him, according to news reaching here today. The baby victim of the fiendish attack was said to be in a serious condition today.

The negro, Herbert Taylor, was a trusty at Camp B, Parchman Farm Branch, located near Lambert. According to thestory received here today the negro attacked the four-year-old daughter of an official of the convict camp. He was locked up in a cell at the prilson farm and Sheriff McArthur and Deputy Carlisle went there about 7 o'clock last night and got the prisoner.

Starting supposedly for Clarksdale to land the negro in jail for safekeeping, the Quitman County officers passed through Marks about 9:30 last night. Sheriff McArthur found the road to Clarksdale blocked by a mob and turned about to carry the negro to Tutwiler. That road was also blocked by members of a determined mob who were incensed at the brutal crime. The sheriff and his deputy then took another road leading toward Jonestown.

When about two miles out of Jonestown the officers were overtaken by the mob and several shots were fired at their automobile, forcing them to stop. A gang of men, armed with various sorts of guns, surrounded the auto and snatched the negro away. He was carried into the woods a short distance away and shot to death. The mob dispersed rapidly and today officers had no clew to the identity of any of its members.

LYNCHING QUIZ ORDERED.

Leave No Stone Unturned, Judge Tells Grand Jury.

Clarksdale, Miss., Sept. 23.—A grand jury impaneled here was ordered by Judge Alcorn of the circuit court to conduct a rigid investigation of the lynching last Friday night of Herbert Taylor, negro convict, by a mob which seized the prisoner while Sheriff McArthur and several deputies were bringing him to this city for safekeeping.

Judge Alcorn condemned the action of the mob and told the grand jury to "leave no stone unturned" in its effort to fix responsibility for the lynching.

Taylor was charged with an attack on a four-year-old child, the daughter of a convict guard stationed at Camp "B" of the Parchman farm near Lambert, in Quitman county. Sheriff McArthur of Quitman county arrested the negro and was bringing him to jail here when he and his deputies were overpowered by a mob near Jonestown in Coahoma county. The negro was taken from the officers, marched into the woods and shot to death.

Lynchings—1924.
Cases of.

Missouri,

1564

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO, THEN BURNS HIS BODY

Charleston, Mo., December 18.—A mob of more than 200 men overpowered Sheriff B. B. Jackson in his office here tonight, dragged Roosevelt Grigsby, 20-year-old negro, who had been identified as the man who attempted to attack a white girl two hours previously, across the courtyard and hanged him to a tree within 50 feet of the sheriff's office.

A bullet was fired through the body, which then was cut loose from the tree, tied to an automobile and dragged through the streets of the negro section, followed by the howling mob, some members of which were brandishing guns. The body eventually was hanged to a post in front of a grocery store.

Before the mob departed, however, the body was cut down, a huge bonfire was started and the body soon was charred to embers.

The action of the mob was said by officials to have been the direct outgrowth of intense racial feeling that has existed here since last October 31, when the wife of a prominent landowner of this county was criminally attacked on a road near her home. Forty negroes were arrested at the time, but none was indicted.

MISSOURI MOB BURNS MAN

More Than Two Hundred Men Over-Power Sheriff, Hang Roosevelt Grigsby and Burn Body

Victim Accused of Attacking Girl Two Hours Earlier—No Attempt Made to Prevent Lynching. In Barn Fire.

Charleston, Mo., Dec. 19.—Roosevelt Grigsby was lynched here last night after a mob of more than 200 men had taken him away from the sheriff. He was hanged to a tree and afterwards his body was cut down and burned in a huge bonfire.

Grigsby had been arrested about two hours before, charged with having made at attack on a white woman. The mob came to the office of Sheriff B. B. Jackson and seized the man. He was carried a short distance away and hanged to a tree, while a cheering mob watched him die. Before the mob dispersed the body was cut down and burned in a huge bonfire which had been built.

There was no attempt made by any one to interfere with the lynching and the authorities were conspicuous by their absence.

—American Press Association.

SHERIFF UNABLE TO SAVE NEGRO'S NECK

Mob of 200 Overpowers Officer and Hangs White Girl's Assailant to Tree

CHARLESTON, MO., Dec. 18.—A mob of more than 200 men overpowered Sheriff B. B. Jackson in his office here tonight dragged Roosevelt Grigsby, 20 year old negro who had been identified as the man who attempted to attack a white girl two hours previously across the court yard and hanged him to a tree within 50 feet of the sheriff's office.

A bullet was fired through the body which then was cut loose from the tree, tied to an automobile and dragged through the streets of the negro section, followed by the howling mob, some members of which were brandishing guns. The body eventually was hanged to a post in front of a grocery store.

Before the mob departed however the body was cut down, a huge bonfire was started and the body soon was charred to embers.

No one attempted to interfere with the lynching and the mob dispersed within an hour with fresh outbreaks. At 10 o'clock the situation was quiet.

The action of the mob was said by officials to have been the direct outgrowth of intense racial feeling that has existed here since last October 31 when the wife of a prominent land owner of this country was criminally attacked on a road near her home. Forty negroes were arrested at the time but none were indicted.

A 15 year old girl was returning to her home shortly after six o'clock when a negro stepped out of the shadows and grappled with her but was frightened away by pasisng motorists.

The girl gave a minute description of her assailant and within half an hour Grigsby was arrested. The negro was taken to the sheriff's office and simultaneously a mob of several hundred formed outside the courthouse.

Inside Grigsby was surrounded by Sheriff Jackson and his deputies who, they asserted obtained a confession of his guilt. Before the mob became of menacing proportions, however, the negro was taken to the girl's home, where she positively identified him, officers said. He then was returned to the sheriff's office for further questioning.

By some unexplained means, a copy of Grigsby's alleged confession, was dropped from an upstairs window of the court house to a mob leader below.

Beneath a street light the missive was read aloud.

"Where are we going boys?" shouted a man.

"We'll get him," went up a shout and with the word the mob went charging up the court house steps, through the corridor to the sheriff's office. Jackson met them at the door. He was promptly seized and bound as were his deputies, according to reports.

Eager hands laid hold on the negro and dragged him, screaming for mercy and proclaiming his innocence, down the hall. Some one produced a rope and soon the negro was swinging from a tree.

Missouri Mob Burns Man To Charred Ash

CHARLESTON, Mo., Dec. 18.—A mob of more than 200 men overpowered Sheriff B. B. Jackson in his office here tonight, dragged Roosevelt Grigsby, 20-year old colored man, who had been identified as the man who attempted to attack a white girl two hours previously, across the courtyard and hanged him to a tree within fifty feet of the sheriff's office.

A bullet was fired through the body which then was cut loose from the tree, tied to an automobile and dragged through the streets of the colored section, followed by the howling mob, some members of which were brandishing guns. The body eventually was hanged to a post in front of a grocery store.

Before the mob departed, however, the body was cut down, a huge bonfire was started, and it soon was charred embers.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
DECEMBER 19, 1924

MISSOURI NEGRO LYNCHED.

Mob Hangs Youth at Sheriff's Door, Then Burns Body.

CHARLESTON, Mo., Dec. 18.—A mob of more than 200 men overpowered Sheriff B. B. Jackson in his office here to-night, dragged Roosevelt Grigsby, twenty-year-old Negro, who had been identified as the man who attempted to attack a white girl two hours previously, across the court yard and hanged him to a tree within fifty feet of the Sheriff's office.

Before the mob departed, however, the body was cut down, a huge bonfire was started and the body soon was charred embers.

No one attempted to interfere with the lynching and the mob dispersed within an hour without fresh outbreaks. At 10 P. M. the situation was quiet.

Lynchings—1924
Cases of.

South Carolina.

1603

NEGRO'S BODY FOUND HANGING FROM TREE

Remains of Luke Adams Discovered in Early Morn in Orangeburg County Perforated With Bullets and Buckshot—Neighbors Heard Shots and Machines Sunday Night—Criminal Assault Charged.

Special to The State.

Orangeburg, April 21.—Dangling from a tree by his left hand, with placard on his back, "Crusified by a Leigon," written in bold letters thereon, the bullet ridden, lifeless body of Luke Adams, negro, was found about four miles from Norway at early dawn this morning by passersby, the victim of a lynching mob. Around 9 o'clock last night a volley of shots was heard by parties residing near the scene and shortly the buzzing of passing automobiles, and quiet again fell during an Easter night, but against Orangeburg county another lynching was recorded on her law and order sheet.

It is alleged that between 3 and 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in open daylight, a party of men escorted Luke Adams from the Norway town jail, where he had been placed late Saturday afternoon, carried him to the home of a well known citizen of that section, where he was viewed by the citizen's young daughter, who identified the man as Adams. It is stated, the man confessed to the crime. He was carried about three miles to Robert swamp, strung up and shot to death. At the scene of the lynching 17 empty pistol shells and four empty gun shells were found this morning by a deputy sheriff.

Luke Adams was born and reared in Orangeburg. He was a moral pervert. He was about 27 years of age and unmarried. About six years ago he made an attempted criminal assault upon a married negress of this city, was convicted and completed a five year sentence last September. He was working on a chaingang building a road from Orangeburg to Norway and was discharged in the neighborhood of where it is alleged that he committed a criminal assault about six weeks ago. This assault was reported in Orangeburg and news reached here that the culprit was lynched, but this proved to be an exaggeration of a statement that the perpetrator should be lynched.

During the fall Luke Adams is reported to have made unbecoming remarks or unbecoming statement to a white woman of this county while passing on a highway and he was arrested, lodged in the Orangeburg county jail and remained there until the January term of criminal court, but was not tried and was discharged from the jail. He went to the Cope section of Orangeburg, visiting Orangeburg, where he was seen last Friday. Saturday afternoon he was arrested at Cope by W. R. Kirkland, a magistrate's constable from Norway. The warrant of arrest was issued by Magistrate J. J. Judy of Norway. Adams was incarcerated in the Norway jail, an insecure prison.

Coroner Frederick N. Rickenbaker reached the scene of the lynching about 10:30 o'clock this morning and held an inquest. Testimony was taken of men residing in that community who told of hearing shots and passing cars but said they did not go out to investigate. The wounds on the body, which at that time was cut down [illegible] were sufficient [illegible] the eye of a layman to tell what produced death. The jury found that a negro, identified as Luke Adams, had come to his death by the act of a mob, the members of which were unknown. There were about 50 men of the community and Norway present at the hearing. The body was turned over to a local undertaker for burial.

Girl Severely Choked.

The alleged victim of this dead man is reported to have been choked nearly to death by her assailant, while the other inmates of the home were some distance away in the field at work. Blue bruised places on the girl's neck, it has been stated, remained there two weeks.

Quiet reigns in the Norway section, there not being the slightest evidence of any disorder between the white and negroes. The sheriff is in that section today watching the situation. A negro woman having been severely beaten in that section lately and the prominence of the parties implicated therein and the oncoming of this lynching brought fears of a precipitation of feeling.

It has been definitely ascertained today that the lynching of Luke Adams was in no wise connected with the burning of of the South Willow school building or the whipping of the negress by parties alleged to be from the Norway section. Luke Adams did not live in those sections and was unknown, save to those who saw him on the chaingang. Besides living in Orangeburg, he worked near Cope with farmers residing on a public road from that town to Orangeburg.

No Official Report.

Gov. Thomas G. McLeod, as yet uninformed through official channels of the lynching of Luke Adams, had no extended statement to make with reference to the affair, he said, in the absence of such an official report. The act, of course, he said, is to be deeply deplored and it will be investigated promptly. No official report of the affair has been made and I shall wait until I receive a report from the local authorities before making any extended comment."

The lynching is the first in South Carolina in over two years, the last exhibition of such extreme mob violence being a lynching in Laurens January 1, 1922.

NEGRO'S BODY FOUND HANGING FROM TREE

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"I regret very much that it should have occurred," he said. "It will, of course be, as it must be, investigated promptly. No official report of the affair has been made and I shall wait until I receive a report from the local authorities before making any extended comment."

The lynching is the first in South Carolina in over two years, the last exhibition of such extreme mob violence being a lynching in Laurens January 1, 1922.

NEGRO WHO ATTACKED WOMAN IS LYNCHED

Orangeburg, S. C., April 21.—Luke Adams, negro, was found lynched this morning about three miles from Norway in Orangeburg county.

Adams was accused of attacking a white woman [illegible]

He had been recently released from the county chain gang. The coroner has gone to the scene.

Near the body a placard was found reading as follows: "This is the Nigh one crucified by Aleigons."

Deputy Sheriff Price, who visited the scene today, brought the placard back to Orangeburg and with it 17 pistol cartridges and five shotgun shells, picked near where the body was found. He said the negro's neck showed seven or eight wounds, and there were other wounds in the body. The officer reported that he had been unable to locate anyone who had any knowledge of the lynching.

Negro Shot to Death Near Norway Sunday

(Continued From Page One.)

magistratet at Norway, J. J. Judy.

Find Him Killed

Several white citizens in the community spread the alarm and Deputy Sheriff St. Clair Price of this city, went to the scene early Monday morning and found the negro tied by one hand to a sweet gum tree, about five feet from the public road and about seventy-five yards to the north of Robert's creek bridge.

Mr. Price picked up seventeen pistol cartridges and five gun shells. He also brought away a placard, being an old dirty piece of stiff cardboard upon which was written in ink. "This is the guilty one, crucified by a Leigen," the English of which is not correct, but which is legible. This cardboard was found upon the man. Beyond the bridge to the south

and about 150 yards from the body were several shirts, old coats and two vests, presumably belonging to the negro.

Very little information could be secured regarding the lynching. It was reported by a little boy that about dark Sunday afternoon someone in a coupe rode up to the Norway town jail and took Luke Adame, drawing out the staples that locked the door. The little boy said he thought it was someone from Orangeburg taking the negro there.

Sheriff R. F. Dukes, Solicitor A. J. Hydrick and County Policeman George W. Dukes and Jeff Kizer, as well as Constable W. R. Kirkland, visited the scene. Coroner F. N. Rickenbaker went to the scene empaneled a jury, which viewed the body, and the rendered a verdict that thte deceased came to his death by parties unknown. A number of shots went into his body and he was most probably shot where he was found, as one bullet went through the tree.

Brought to Orangeburg

The body was brought to tois city where it will be prepared for burial here. His relatives live in this city.

Luke Adams was known by most everybody in this city, being, it is thought simple-minded, as he was continually in trouble. He completed a sentence last fall upon the county chain gang of three years on the charge of "intent to ravish," having broken into a house in this city and scared the residents. He pleaded guilty to the charge of "intent to ravish," as the grand jury found no bill on the charge of "assault."

On the day that Luke was discharged from the gang, where it is said he made a good prisoner, he is said to have isulted a white lady in the Norway community and was placed in jail again, but the charges were "nolle prossed" against him at the January 1924, term of court.

Luke Adams, a negro perhaps about 30 years old and who formerly lived on Oak street in this city, was lynched Sunday night, his body having been discovered at the side of the Holman Bridge road at Roberts Swamp about 75 yards from Roberts Creek, five miles from Norway, an equal distance from Cope and around 13 miles from this city, Monday morning. Persons of that vicinity noticed the dead body and notified the sheriff's office about 7:30 o'clock Monday morning.

The body was riddled with bullets and was swinging by the side of a young gum tree to which the victim had been tied, evidently before being shot to death. A cotton rope, resembling a plow line, was tied around his right wrist and the other end was tied to the tree at such a height as to cause the body to be extended with the feet on the ground but not in such a position as to enable it to double up. The body was on the right side of the road going towards Norway.

A piece of soiled and partly torn cardboard about 12 or 15 inches long and six or eight inches wide was found on the ground near the body, and on this cardboard were the following words, with the exception of the quotation marks here used, and spelled in the following manner: "This is the right One crusified, by aleigons." The handwriting was legible but was not very good. The word "crusified" brought out the comment that the lynching occurred on Easter Sunday night. A cross was found carved in the tree just above the rope tied there.

It was impossible to tell just how many holes had been shot into the negro. There were a large number of bullet holes in the lower part of the neck in front, indicating that the victim might have thrown his head back when the shots were fired. Only one or two bullet holes showed in the face. Gunshot wounds were found in the left side. The wounds in the neck and side appeared to be the greater portion of the gunshot wounds inflicted. A deep indentation in the right wrist showed from the pressure of the dead body on the rope for many hours. The negro wore a suit of overalls and had on socks and shoes.

That guns and pistols were used by the lynchers was indicated by the discovery of a large number of empty gun shells and empty pistol cartridges in the road near the negro. It seems that the negro was tied to the tree and then fired into after the lynchers had stepped off several yards to or near the other side of the road, a distance of about 15 or 20 feet.

The time of the killing was pretty well established as about 9 o'clock Sunday night as citizens in the community where the lynching occurred stated that they heard shots about that time.

Scattered along the left hand side of the road, going towards Norway, about 50 yards from the suspended body were some men's clothes. Several coats and shirts were found, all of which were rather the worse for wear. It was stated that the negro carried a bundle of clothes to the Norway guard house, he having them with him when arrested in Cope.

It was reported that citizens of that section heard curses and loud talking in an automobile somewhere in the road Sunday night. One of the occupants of the car is said to have said: "Don't hit him any more, he is drunk." Whether or not this incident had any connection with the lynching, however, is not known.

When Deputy Sheriff Price received the information of the discovery of the body by telephone Monday morning he went to the scene. Sheriff Dukes also went and now has the empty gun shells, empty pistol cartridges and cardboard in his possession.

Coroner F. N. Rickenbaker was on the scene soon after the report and held an inquest, the verdict of the jury being that "the deceased came to his death at the hands of unknown parties." The following foreman, A. T. Garrick, J. A. Surles, George Argoe, C. D. Rutland and J. V. Brown.

Solicitor A. J. Hydrick went to the scene of the lynching soon after the body was reported found. State Constables George Dukes, Jeff Kizer and other officers and private citizens visited the scene.

The body was turned over to A. E. Bythewood, colored undertaker of this city, for burial.

At the coroner's inquest and during the investigation Monday morning it was brought out that the negro had been arrested Saturday evening about dark in Cope by Constable W. R. Kirkland on a warrant sworn out before Magistrate J. J. Judy at Norway, and lodged in the Norway guard house. Constable Kirkland is employed as constable by Magistrate J. J. Judy. The warrant charged criminal assault in connection with an alleged attack on a white woman in the Norway vicinity about three weeks ago. It is said that in that alleged attack the negro was choking the woman but was scared off before accomplishing his purpose. It is also said that the identiy of the negro making that attack was not discovered at the time of the alleged attack. The negro was taken from the Norway guard house and carried to the scene of his subsequent summary execution.

It was reported at the scene of the lynching Monday morning that the negro confessed to the crime and had also been identified by the would-be victim.

Adams was said to have been working for R. A. Walter, prominent white farmer, and Marshall Jones, well known negro farmer, near Cope, when arrested Saturday.

This negro has had a bad career, as shown by the court records. He served a sentence of five years upon conviction of criminal assault on a negro woman of this city. He also served terms for stealing, it is said, and figured in one o rmore cases of alleged attempted assault besides those here mentioned. He has been in this city and county, making no apparent effort to conceal himself, since the time of the alleged attack several weeks ago in fact, it is said that be has even worked in the section in which the alleged crime occurred. He is unmarried.

This is the first lynching in Orangeburg county in a greats many years, and is the first to occur in the state of South Carolina in over two years.

gro Shot to Death Near Norway Sunday

Luke Adams, Accused of Attempted Assault, Said to Have Been Indentified, Taken From Jail and Lynched

From the State—Dangling from a tree by his left hand, with placard on his back, "Crusified by a Legion," written in bold letters thereon, the bullet ridden, lifeless body of Luke Adams, negro, was found about four miles from Norway at an early dawn Monday morning by passerby, the victim of a lynching mob.

Around 9 o'clock Sunday night a volley of shots was heard by parties residing near the scene and automobiles, and quiet again fell during an Easter night, but against Orangeburg county another lynching was recorded on her law and order sheet.

It is alleged that between 3 and 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon, in open daylight, a party of men escorted Luke Adams from the Norway town jail, where he had been carried him to the home of a well known citizen of that section, where he was viewed by the citidentified the man as Adams. It is stated the man confessed to the crime. He was carried about three miles toRobert Swamp, strung up and shot to death. At the scene of the lynching 17 empty pistol shells and four empty shells were found this morning by a deputy sheriff.

Luke Adams was born and reared in Orangeburg. He was a mor years ago al pervert. He was about 27 years of age and unmarried. About six years ago he made an attempted criminal assault upon a married negress of this city, was convicted and completed a five year sentence last September. He wwas working on a chaingang building a road from Orangeburg to Norway and was discharged in the neighborhood of where it is alleged that he cimmitted a criminal assault about six weeks ago. This assault was reported in Orangeburg and news reached here that the culprit was lynched, but this proved to be an exaggeration of a statement that the perpetrator should be lynched.

During the fall Luke Adams is reported to have made unbecoming statement to a white woman of this county while passing on a hign way and he was arrested, lodged in the Orangeburg county jail and remained there until the January term of criminal court, but was not tried and was discharged from the jail.

He went to the Cope section of Orangeburg, visiting Orangeburg, where he was seen last Friday. Saturday afternoon he was arrested at Cope by W. R. Strickland, a magistrate's constable from Norway. The warrant was issued by Magistrate J. J. Judy of Norway.

Adams was incarcerated in the Norway jail, an insecure prison.

Coroner Frederick N. Rickenbaker reached the scene of the lynching about 10:30 o'clock and hld an inquest. Testimonywas taken of men residing in that community, who told of hearing shots and pasing cars but said they did not go out to investigate.

The wonuds on the body, which at that time, was cut down from the tree, were suficient to the eye of a layman to tell what produced death. The jury found that a negro, indentified as Luke Adams, had come to his death by the act of a mob, the members of which were unknown. There were about 50 men of the community and Norway present at the hearing. The body was turned over to a local undertaker for burial.

Girl Severely Chocked

The alleged victim of this dead man is reported to have been choked nearly to death by he assaililant, while the other inmates of the home were some distance away in the field at work. Blue bruised places on the girl's neck it has been stated, remained there two weeks.

Quiet reigns in the Norway section, there not being the slightest evidence of any disorder between the white and negroes. A ngro woman having been severly beaten in that section lately and the prominence of the parties implicated therein and the oncoming of this lynching brought fears of a precipitation of feeling.

It ahs been definitely ascertained that the lynching of Luke Adams was in no wise connected with the burning of the South Willow school building or the whipping of the negress by parties alleged to be from the Norway section. Luke Adams did not live in those sections and was unknown save to these who saw him on the chaingang. Besides living in Orangeburg, he worked near Cope with farmers residing on a public road from that town to Orangeburg.

No Official Report

Gov. Thomas G. McLeod, uninformed through official channels of the lynching of Luke Adams had no extended statement to make with referenc to th affair, he said, in the absence of such an official report. The act, of course, he said is to be deeply deplored and it will be investigated.

"I regret very much that it should have occured," he said. "It will, of course be, as it must be, investigated promptly. No official report of the afair has been made and I shall wait until I receive a report from the local authorities before making any extended comment."

The lynching is the first in South Carolina in over two years, the last exhibition of such extreme mob violence being a lynching in Laurens January 1, 1922.

(From The News and Courier.)

The first lynching to occur in Orangeburg county in about twelve or thirteen years took place Sunday night on the old Holman bridge road, about five miles from Norway and four miles from Cope, near what is known as Robert's creek. Luke Adams a negro, formerly of this city, but more lately a resident of the Cope section, was the victim. He was about twenty-five years old an dwas raised in this city.

The lynching took place Sunday night about 9 o'clock in one of the most secluded spots in the county. Witnesses at the coroner's inquest Monday morning stated they heard a number of shots about 9 o'clock in the vicinity where the act was committed.

Lynchings—1924
Cases of.

Tennessee

1585

NEGRO SLAYER LYNCHED BY MOB NEAR NASHVILLE

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 15.—Samuel Smith, 15-year-old negro, who shot Ike Eastwood, grocer, twelve miles from Nashville at 1 o'clock Saturday morning and was shot by the wounded grocer, was taken from the general hospital at 11:55 o'clock tonight by eight or nine masked men, who held the hospital manager, L. J. Hardeman, at bay. One man was left covering Hardeman with his pistol, until the others with the negro escaped.

The negro was lynched a few minutes later by the masked men and a mob that took him to within 300 yards of the home of the man he shot and hung him to a tree, firing several shots into his body.

The mob, in thirty automobiles, sent seven or eight of their number into the hospital to obtain the lad and rushed away before the officers could intercept them. The boy was hanged and his body riddled with bullets. Nude, the body was left to hang until officers cut it down this morning.

The boy and his uncle, Jim Smith, were surprised by Eastwood as they sought to steal parts from Eastwood's automobile. Jim Smith was captured by Eastwood, but Sam shot the grocer and was fleeing when Eastwood shot him. It was thought at first that Eastwood had been wounded probably fatally, but he is recovering.

The lynching was the second here since the Civil War. The other was in 1894.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
DECEMBER 16, 1924

LYNCH NEGRO, SEIZED AFTER HOSPITAL RAID

Masked Band Forces Way Into Nashville Institution at Pistol Point.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 15.—Samuel Smith, 15 years old, a negro, who shot Ike Eastwood, a grocer, 12 miles from Nashville at 1 o'clock on Saturday morning and was shot by the wounded grocer, was taken from the General Hospital at 11:55 o'clock tonight by eight or nine masked men who held the hospital manager, L. J. Hardeman, at bay.

One man was left covering Hardeman with his pistol until the others escaped with the negro.

The negro was lynched a few minutes later by the masked men and a mob that took him to within 500 yards of the home of his victim.

He was hanged to a tree and several shots were fired into his body.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
DECEMBER 16, 1924

NEGRO BOY LYNCHED

Had Shot Man in Tennessee Who Caught Him Stealing.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 16.—Sam Smith, 15-year-old negro, was taken from the City Hospital here last night and lynched at Nolensville, twelve miles from here, where he shot Ike Eastwood, a grocer, on Friday night.

MOB TAKES NEGRO FROM HOSPITAL COT AND LYNCHES HIM

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One man was left covering Hardeman with his pistol until the others with the negro escaped.

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NEW YORK CITY POST
DECEMBER 15, 1924

NEGRO BOY OF 15 LYNCHED

Taken From Nashville Hospital After He Wounds Man in Robbery

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 16.—Sam Smith, fifteen, a negro, was taken from the City Hospital here last night and lynched at Nolensville, Tenn., twelve miles from here, where he shot Ike Eastwood, a grocer, Friday night.

The mob, in thirty automobiles, sent seven or eight of their number into the hospital to obtain the boy and rushed away before officers could intercept them. The boy and his uncle, Jim Smith, were surprised by Eastwood as they sought to steal parts from Eastwood's automobile. Eastwood, who wounded the boy after being shot, is recovering.

MOB LYNCHES YOUNG NEGRO

Masked Men Take Sam Smith From General Hospital and Hang Him.

FIRE SHOTS INTO BODY

Action Follows Shooting of Ike Eastwood, Nolensville Grocer, Last Friday Night.

WORK WELL ORGANIZED

Sam Smith, 15-year-old Negro who shot and wounded Ike Eastwood, Nolensville grocer, last Friday night, was taken from the Nashville general hospital Monday night by a masked and armed band and hanged about midnight near the spot where he shot Eastwood during the course of an attempted robbery of the latter's grocery store.

Smith had been shot by Eastwood and was a patient at the general hospital.

Shortly before midnight a party of armed men wearing masks entered the hospital, covered Larry Hardeman, custodian, with shotguns and pistols, cut the telephone wires in Hardeman's office and procedeed to the ward where Smith was confined to his bed, to which he was chained.

The mob declined to heed the pleas of Miss Amy Weagle, nurse in charge of the Negro ward, who at first declined to point out Smith and made an effort to prevent their carrying out their purpose. Miss Weagle stood in such position that the members of the mob could not see the chain which held the Negro to his bed, but they finally located him and demanded that he get out and go with them. The Negro answered that he was suffering from a wound and was unable to arise. The mob then covered the Negro with their guns, one of the men remarking, "We might as well kill you here, then."

The mob took the Negro outside, put him in an automobile and rushed him to the scene of the hanging. He was nude.

It is said that there were about thirty automobiles loaded with men in the lynching party.

The Negro was hanged to an oak tree about 100 yards from the Eastwood home. His body was riddled with bullets as the members of the mob fired from their automobiles.

OFFICERS ON SCENE.

Due to the cutting of the wires at the General hospital, there was delay in notifying the officers. Sheriff Bob Briley, Chief Deputy Joe Dixon, Deputy Harrison Pugh and Sergt. J. W. Hurt, Sergt. J. T. Jennett, Motorcycle Officers Robert Malone and Charles Bearden and Emergency Officer A. A. Foster of the Nashville police department made a quick response to the call and were on the scene shortly afterward. The body remained in the position in which it was found until cut down by the sheriff, who brought it to town.

The first man on the scene of the hanging was W. F. Fly, farmer, living about twelve miles on the Nolensville pike, who was awakened by a volley of shots. He arose, dressed and went to the point from which he judged the sound of shots came and discovered the body of the Negro about 50 yards from his home. The Negro's body was suspended from the tree, with his feet only a few inches from the ground. The manacles and chains were still fastened to his body.

The methodical manner in which the members of the mob operated and the ease with which their purpose was accomplished indicated that the affair had been carefully planned and that they were well organized for the work at hand.

According to Larry Hardeman, custodian at the hospital, about six or seven men entered the hospital and covered him with guns. He was ordered not to move. The men cut the telephone wires and then left two of the body to guard him, while the rest went into the Negro ward to secure the man they had demanded.

Hardeman said that he thought when the men entered they were there to rob the hospital and he offered them the pay roll. "We don't want money," one of the men is reported to have said, "we want that Negro Sam Smith."

Immediately after the men left the hospital with Smith, Dr. George Carpenter, nurses and attaches who were not on duty were awakened and the alarm was gotten to the officers as quickly as possible.

WILL INVESTIGATE.

Sheriff Bob Briley told a representative of the Banner this morning that he intended to investigate the matter with a view to following the law in the case. He said he had not anticipated any mob violence, as he considered that Eastwood's wound was not serious and that the Negro's would probably prove fatal. He saw no necessity for any action, he said.

Sheriff Briley, who resides about two miles from the scene of the hanging, said that he was notified by the county jail of the taking of Smith from the hospital and that he had started to town to stop the trouble when he heard the shots. He said he hurried to the scene but found no members of the mob present and only a few people who had followed the crowd from the city.

Sheriff Briley said that when he reached the scene of the hanging he found the Negro's pajamas on the ground just beneath where the body was suspended. This morning the pajama shirt was gone, but the bloody trousers were nailed to a nearby tree.

The tree to which the Negro was hanged is on the Frank Hill road, about 100 yards from the Nolensville pike.

According to residents of the Nolensville neighborhood, the Smith Negroes had bad reputations. It is said that they were in the habit of riding up and down the pike shooting firearms and generally disturbing the peace of the community.

Attaches at the General Hospital told of the affair this morning. Miss Amy Weagle, the nurse who tried to stop the mob from taking the Negro from the hospital, said that she heard the men approaching the door to the Negro ward and went to see who it was. When the men appeared they told her that they wanted to get Sam Smith, the Negro. Miss Weagle told them that he was not in that ward, but they replied that they knew he was, and thereupon entered the ward.

Miss Weagle tried to prevent their finding the Negro, but they secured the location of his bed from the charts, cut the chains which bound him to the bed and took him hobbling from the room.

Ed Lee Derrick, Negro, who occupied a bed next to the one from which the mob took Smith, declared that Smith had not spoken a word during the entire proceeding and had hobbled from the ward when they demanded that he go with them.

Mr. Hardeman said this morning that four telephones at the hospital had been disconnected by the members of the masked party, but that the headset on the telephone exchaige box was in working order and he used this to notify the officers.

Little groups of citizens of the Nolensville neighborhood were gathered around the Eastwood store and the scene of the hanging this morning, but nobody knew anything definite about the affair. It was simply being discussed as an occurence of the night.

YOUTH TAKEN FROM HOSPITAL COT AND HANGED BY MOBBISTS

Storekeeper Shot By Youth Alleged to Have Committed Crime Against An Older Sister—Body Riddled.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 18.—Defiling the spirit of the Yuletide season with one of the most atrocious and bloodthirsty crimes in the annals of "Lynch Law" history, and mocking the sacred Bible quotation of "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men," a gang of Southern hoodlums snatched 15-year-old Sammy Smith from his cot in the bed of a local hospital here Monday night, removed him to a distant and remote spot, and lynched him by hanging.

The youth, it is alleged, had shot Ike Eastwood, a white grocer, who operated a store near Nashville. The youth was hanged and several shots fired into his body.

Crime Atrocious

Unschooled and made desperate by the fact that he was hungry and penniless, and as he soblingly declared while being taken to the hospital, "kain't get Mom nothin' for Christmas," the youth was a victim of unusual circumstances.

He made no secret of the fact that he had intended to rob the white man, but hinted that the money he planned on getting would have only been in reparation for some crime the owner of the store had committed against an older sister of his. What this crime was, the youth would not say, but rumors had been going the rounds for some time in the Negro community of the town that Eastwood bore an unsavory reputation of being a despoiler of young colored girls.

The lad, caught as he was about to rifle the cash register, is thought to have shot Eastwood through fear. The wound was not very serious, and the store owner then secured his gun and shot the lad before escape was possible.

Feeling ran high throughout the town all day Monday. Eastwood's cronies, said to have consisted of the tougher element of the town, hurled dire threats of a lynching. Police authorities were notified of the threats, but refused to place added police protection around the hospital. Midnight Monday found ten men forcing their way into the hospital, meeting with no opposition, and taking the lad out of his cot to his death pyre.

Despite the tearful pleadings of the lad, he was forcibly dragged to a lone spot, where his body was tied up to a tree. After his death, several shots were sent into the lifeless body, and the men otherwise mutilated the remains.

As a hazy southern sun peeped over Nashville Tuesday, all that remained to remind one of the crime was the lifeless, nude body of the youth, swaying crazily in the breeze

NASHVILLE TENN BANNER
DECEMBER 18, 1924

MOB LYNCHES YOUNG NEGRO

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FIRE SHOTS INTO BODY

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The mob declined to heed the pleas of Miss Amy Weagle, nurse in charge of the Negro ward, who at first declined to point out Smith and made an effort to prevent their carrying out their purpose. Miss Weagle stood in such position that the members of the mob could not see the chain which held the Negro to his bed, but they finally located him and demanded that he get out and go with them. The Negro answered that he was suffering from a wound and was unable to arise. The mob then covered the Negro with their guns, one of the men remarking, "We might as well kill you here, then."

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MOB LYNCHES YOUNG NEGRO

(Continued from First Page.)

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Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Tennessee.

1586

$5,000 REWARD FOR ARREST OF MOB OFFERED

Civic Clubs Denounce Lynching of Samuel Smith, Negro Who Shot Grocer.

TO UPHOLD LAW

Ike Eastwood in Hospital Learns First of Lynching From Reporter.

From a self-styled band of public avengers, the mob members that took Samuel Smith, 15-year-old negro burglar, from his deathbed and lynched him Monday night, were converted by public opinion Tuesday into a gang of fugitive slayers.

Nashville Tennessean

For their capture and conviction, the Chamber of Commerce, through its board of governors, offered a reward of $5,000 at an afternoon session. Civic bodies, churches and public officials joined in the demand for their apprehension. And the officers of the county, city and state got into motion to trail the slayers down.

12-17-24

For probably the first time in the South after a negro lynching, a body of representative negroes made public a resolution of denunciation here Tuesday afternoon. The action was taken by the Agora Club, composed of some of the leading negroes in the city.

Officials Assign Men.

Without making a public statement of his intention, G. B. Kirkpatrick, county attorney-general, assigned a special corps of his evidence force to work on the case. Those assisted Bob Briley, sheriff, in taking depositions of all witnesses and reinvestigating the ground covered Monday night.

Mayor Howse joined in the denunciation. He will issue a statement Wednesday morning after receiving the report of the board of governors of the General Hospital, which was drawn up Tuesday night.

The board voted to present Mrs. Amy F. Weagle, student nurse, with a medal for her bravery in attempting to guard the negro against the mob.

Mrs. Weagle is a native of Boston, Mass., and first came to the South two years ago to make her home in Madison, Tenn.

Pressed for more facts about herself, the young nurse refused them on the ground of dislike for publicity. She admitted she was "scared" and that the entry of the mob into the negro ward was her first experience with anything resembling inter-racial conflict or mob violence.

She attempted to hide the chains by which Smith was held to the bed, and hindered the mob's exit as long as she was able. As a result of the incident, she was slightly ill Tuesday afternoon.

Judge Chester K. Hart of Part II criminal court will deliver a special charge to the grand jury this morning in regard to the lynching.

Grocer Interviewed

Ike Eastwood, popular Nolensville grocer, who shot and was shot by the negro following an attempt to rob his store, and thus precipitated the mob incident, faces death at St. Thomas hospital. Pains from his wound prevented him from giving any expression on the lynching Tuesday night, when he was first told of it by a newspaperman.

"What do you think of it?" he was asked.

"I don't know," was his only answer.

He indicated with brief words between twinges of pain, that he knew neither of the negroes who attempted to rob his store, and that he supposed Smith, who escaped and was found wounded in a nearby bunch of weeds next morning, was older than it developed he was.

Grocer's Story of Shooting

According to the account of the shooting as given Sheriff Briley by the wounded grocer, Sam Smith and Jim Smith, his uncle, had evidently had some trouble with their automobile a short distance away from the Eastwood home. Jim Smith left the boy with the automobile, came into the Eastwood garage, and was attempting to remove some parts from the grocer's automobile.

Noise of the attempt awakened Ike Eastwood's brother, who in turn awakened the grocer. The latter took his gun, and going into the yard, surprised the older negro at work. The latter gave up without any trouble.

Left with the automobile, Sam Smith began to worry about his uncle's absence, and came down the roadway where he met Eastwood and the captured negro.

"Is this negro with you?", the grocer demand of his prisoner.

"Yes," Jim answered.

"Well, step over here," Eastwood told Sam, "I'm going to put you in jail, too."

The negro boy opened fire, the charge striking the grocer, who, though wounded, returned the shots, one taking effect as the negro disappeared in the darkness.

Nashville Tennessean 12-17-24

Eastwood's brother came from the house and lent a hand with the captured negro, who was brought to the county jail.

The boy was found next morning in a clump of weeds, badly wounded, and almost unconscious. He was placed in the General hospital by Sheriff Briley, who had no facilities for caring for him at the jail.

The mob took him back to the Eastwood home Monday night and hanged him to a tree.

Virtually every civic organization in the city passed resolutions condemning the mob. The board of trustees of the Vine Street Temple took similar action Tuesday night.

In addition to the $5,000 reward offered by the Chamber of Commerce, other funds will be given by the same body, if needed to supplement the rewards that are expected to be offered by the state and county.

Committee to See Governor

In the meeting Tuesday afternoon $1,100 was subscribed immediately, and a committee was appointed as follows to meet Governor Peay on his arrival here from the Brushy mountain prison Wednesday morning to confer with him and carry out the adopted resolutions:

C. A. Craig, Col. Luke Lea, Edward Foster, F. M. Quackenboss and W. R. Manier, Jr.

The resolutions follow:

A committee to see Gov. Austin Peal, upon his return from Brushy Mountain Wednesday was appointed, consisting of C. A. Craig, Col Luke Lea, Edward Foster, F. M. Quackenboss and W. R. Manier, Jr. This committee will confer with the governor and carry out the resolutions passed by the board of governors, which are as follows:

"The board of governors of the Chambers of Commerce of the city of Nashville, having met on this, Dec. 16, 1924, for the purpose of considering conditions that exist in the county of Davidson and the city of Nashville in the observance and enforcement of the law, express our unqualified condemnation of the act of lynching which took place on the night of December 15, when the negro, Samuel Smith, was taken from the City Hospital in Nashville by an armed mob and hanged.

"This act was done in defiance of the law, without any measure of justification, and its perpetrators were guilty of murder and are answerable to the law as murderers. The negro lynched was in the custody of the law, and while he had committed a grave offense and deserved the limit of the law in punishment, the law should have been enforced against him by its regular processes and not by a mob that acted in disregard and defiance of all law.

"We pledge ourselves to assist in every honorable way to bring to trial the parties guilty of the murder of this negro, and believe that the majesty of the law must and should be upheld, and in no other way than by the trial and conviction of the perpetrators of this crime can the law be vindicated.

Will Raise $5,000.

"We, therefore, pledge ourselves to raise a fund of at least $5,000 to be used by the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose (1) of offering a reward for the arrest and conviction of the criminals, and (2) of employing detectives and attorneys to that end; the expenditure of the fund raised to be under the supervision of the board of governors of the Chamber of Commerce, or a special committee of the Chamber of Commerce appointed for that purpose.

"Ours is a government of law, not of men. Human life in this community is no longer regarded as sacred. Too many who are guilty have escaped. Too light has been the punishment inflicted after conviction of crime. Unless there is more respect for all law and a stricter enforcement of it, the reign of law in this community will be dethroned, and crime become the rule rather than the exception among our people.

"We demand aggressive action upon the part of those charged with the duty of law enforcement, to the end that all offenders against the law shall be brought to speedy trial. We pledge our willingness to serve in any capacity that good citizenship demands of us, and we offer our hearty co-operation to our criminal judges, the sheriff and his deputies, and the police of our city, to the end that lawlessness may cease, and peace and order and the strict observance and enforcement of all laws shall be brought to pass.

"We earnestly request the governor of the State of Tennessee and the mayor of the City of Nashville to supplement in an adequate manner from the state and the city the reward offered for the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, and that a committee of five be appointed to wait upon the governor and the mayor, requesting this action on their part and to carry out the purposes of this resolution."

Burton Issues Statement.

A. M. Burton, president of the Life and Casualty Insurance Company, issued the following statement regarding the lynching:

"To my way of thinking the lynching of this little negro is the greatest crime that has ever been committed in Nashville during the 25 years of my residence here.

"It is beyond my comprehension that this lynching could occur in the city we so proudly call 'The Athens of the South.'

"I believe in the sight of the Lord, each person who composed the mob has committed a much greater crime than that committed by the negro.

"Justice demands a trial with a judge or jury to mete out due penalty for the crime committed.

"State, county and city officials should use all their power and authority to prosecute the offenders to the full extent of the law.

"A. M. BURTON."

County oficers, in a search for clues, were loking for a witness Tuesday night who is said to have seen a string of approximately ten automobiles leaving the City Hospital at the time of the lynching.

The officers discount a statement that "30 automobiles" were in the procession, and believe that when the mob is finally run to earth it will be shown to have consisted of less than a dozen men.

Rabbi Stern and Board Demand Mob Be Punished

"At the regular meeting Tuesday night of the board of trustees of the Vine Street Temple, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"The rabbi and the trustees of the Vine Street Temple desire to express their sense of shame and indignation in that an outrage against law and order has been committed in our city. The fact that anybody has been taken from the custody of the constituted authorities, is a violation of the fundamental principles of our government. Such an unlawful procedure has shocked us and it is indefensible upon all possible grounds.

"We feel that every possible effort should be made to apprehend those responsible for this occurrence, that the offenders should be brought to the bar of justice and that steps be taken that there shall be no repetition of such outrageous conduct. As leaders of an institution devoted to religion, we call upon all the citizens of our city to see that the fundamentals of our religion shall not be trampled upon by irresponsible individuals. We owe it to ourselves, to our community and to the Heavenly Father that a repetition should be prevented.

"RICHARD M. STERN, Rabbi.
"CLARENCE BERNSTEIN,
Chairman Board of Trustees."

Negroes Express Horror At News of Lynching

Members of the Agora Club, composed of representative negroes from the business, professional laboring and other classes, Tuesday passed the following resolutions:

"As colored citizens of Nashville we were horrified at the account in the morning paper of an invasion of the City Hospital, and the dragging forth of a mortally wounded boy, who was a prisoner in charge of the sheriff of the county, yet unguarded, but manacled to the bed.

"As intelligent men who have elected to live in the South and trying to show forth; its advantages we are humiliated beyond expression. We are in a dilemma as to what to tell our people as to wholesale migration to other parts, thereby upsetting business and disturbing civic relations generally.

"We join with all good citizens in appealing to the governor and sheriff to vindicate the law.

"The Agora Club: W. A. Reed, president; T. M. Brumfield, secretary."

Hospital Safe Robbed Night Mob Took Patient

THE nerviest or most ignorant "safe cracker in existence" entered the General hospital early Tuesday in the immediate wake of the mob that lynched Sam Smith, a negro patient, and robbed the main office safe of $49 cash and a few articles.

Nashville Tennessean 12-17-24

This yegg did his stuff within the few hours between the lynching and dawn, and while the hospital was in a flurry caused by the lynching. He jarred the combination loose in some way, it is believed, by kicking i...

Lynchings - 1924.

Texas.

1560

Cases of.

SHORT CUT IN TEXAS.

Negro Shot to Death by a Relative of His Victim.

CROCKETT, Texas, June 7.—A negro, charged with attacking a white woman, yesterday was captured by a posse today a few miles from the scene of the crime and shot to death by a relative of the negro's victim.

NEGRO LYNCHED

Charged With Attacking Woman Shot by Her Relative

CROCKETT, TEXAS, June 7.—A negro charged with attacking a white woman yesterday was captured by a posse today a few miles from the scene of the crime and shot to death by a relative of the negroe's victim.

PAY $50 AND YOU CAN KILL MAN IN TEXAS

Love Affair Centers Around Murder

Grapeland, Tex., June 20.—Ugly rumors are afloat here regarding the murder of Willie B. Smith, aged 23, who is alleged to have been on friendly terms with a white woman, the wife of a farmer. Smith, who was a high school graduate, was shot to death by a relative of the woman in a warehouse where he had secreted himself to escape violence. He successfully eluded a posse after an all-night chase.

The top of his head was blown off by the charge of a shotgun, and another charge entered his chest. The man who committed the murder surrendered to the authorities at Crockett and was released on $50 bond. He was not even summoned to appear at an "investigation" in Justice Davis' court. A jury returned a verdict of "Death by gunshot wounds at the hands of unknown parties."

Smith, it is claimed, had been on friendly terms with the woman, and the charge of "attempted criminal assault" placed against him is regarded as ridiculous by people who knew him and with whom he had discussed his personal affairs. According to reports, he was found in the farmer's home, eating at the dinner table, when a neighbor made an unexpected visit. The man forced a confession from his wife and told his friends, who joined him in the search for Smith.

The murdered man was married and considered a good liver. He was regarded as one of the best dressed young men in this section, which drew much comment from the whit

Lynchings - 1924

West Virginia.

1561

Cases of.

WEST VIRGINIA MOB LYNCHES SUSPECT

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Nov. 3. A mob battered its way with sledge hammers through the brick wall of the town jail in Wayland, W. late last week and dragged red Shannon, colored, from his cell, after locking the jailer and town officers in a room, tied the man to a tree and shot him to death, it was learned here today in a telephone message from Sheriff Frank Allen, of Floyd County, Ky.

Sheriff Allen arrived in Wayland with a posse of deputies too late to prevent the killing. Shannon was accused of having shot to death William Hitchcock, a white coal miner, in an altercation over Honor.

Lynchings—1924.
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern).

1613

BARE CONDITIONS THAT CAUSED LYNCHING HERE

Chicago Whip
11-8-24
Chicago, Ill.

According to those best learned in Social service, the next Chicago race riot will center its activities in that quaint old area bounded on the north by Harrison Street, on the east by Canal Street, and on the South by 14th Street, and on the West by Blue Island. This, the "nearwest side" is commonly known as Chicago's melting pot. Here thirty two nationalities different in habits, manners customs and religion serve their daily needs. In a measure, the commerce of the world in all of its counterparts and ramifications is carried on here. Fortunes change hands daily, and business ranges from the peanut sales to trafficing in Ocean liners.

People Live in Filth

The narrow streets, cluttered with filth and choked with traffic afford an ocular demonstration rivaled only by New York's famous East Side.

It is said by some old residents that the alleys have not been cleaned in the 20th ward in over two years, and that sixty per cent of the houses in this area should be condemned as unsafe for dwelling purposes.

Into the ghetto has come within recent years another people—the Negro, adding color and tone to this babbling pollyglot. Cheaper rents, lower prices in food stuffs being the chief attraction for the new comers.

Most of the trading in this district is done with Jews, since practically all of the merchant houses are operated by Jews. The Negro patronizes these houses in order to obtain goods which they need.

This has left Negro women open to insults frequently by the merchants, according to a women interviewed, and is a source of much dissatisfaction in the neighborhood. Negro men live and consort with the white women, while a few are married to white women in this neighborhood.

Frequent Dances

Dances are given frequently, which both races attend. At the northeast corner of Miller and 14th Street is a lunch room, formerly operated by a colored man. Upstairs over this lunch room dances have been given. The place was pulled so frequently by the police that the man who operated it was forced to sell out. Goldberg, a well known character in the neighborhood as a bondsman and boot-legger is said to have bought the place out and since then has operated with much success the lunch room downstairs and the dance hall upstairs, where both races mix frequently.

The Deutsch and Greenblatt girls over whom William [illegible] lynched have been known to frequent these dances from time to time, at 1073 Maxwell Street next door to the home of one of the girls in question, dances have been given at which these girls were in attendance often. They are well known characters in colored circles in the neighborhood. Miss Betty Greenblatt, who lives at 1071 Miller Street, 2nd Flat rear, has colored tenants living over and under her. She has lived in the neighborhood for 15 years. Such is the social situation as gleaned from interviews held with colored people in the community.

Rose Feeling Old

The history of the persecution in this section of the town dates back two or three years: the killing of a boy by a Jewish merchant, the cutting of a Negro woman by another merchant and the recent beating of a colored boy, by the name of Ernest Anderson, 1536 Washburn Street, because he attempted to defend some colored girls in his company, who were insulted by some boys in the neighborhood; the constant pulling of dance halls without cause; the failure of police to get results in any case where Negroes were molested and the frequent indifference shown by the police authorities on cases reported to them all contributed to inflame the popular mind to the point where they feel that the only protection he can get is that which he can take for himself. Frequent mention is made of the fact that in most cases the Jews in the district do not deal fairly and that the police have never given the interest they should in cases where whites give Negroes the worst of it. On the other hand, it has been pointed out that if a white man should kill another white man every Negro public place in the communtiy is raided and the Negroes searched. An incident was given of this in a case where an Italian killed a policeman. Every Negro pool room in the neighborhood was raided and the Negroes were taken to the police station. In this they complain that they are kept from 24 to 48 hours. Often times they lose their jobs because of failure to get to work and often times they are fined for nothing at all.

Police Unfair

It is reported by some of those who attempted to get weapons after the affair, that police were far more busy in trying to corral all the Negroes in the district, than they were in trying to get the offenders of the law. They point out that even now only one Jew is held and 5 or 6 colored boys who had nothing to do with the affair, are being held in the Maxwell Street Station. Such tactics are considered very unfair on the part of the police. They further point out that the flivver squad has been busy all day today breaking up groups of Negroes formed along Miller, Frank and Maxwell Streets, but pay no attention to the whites so gathered. One of these interruptions was observed by a worker.

Another grievance that the Negroes feel that they have is directed to the fact that they have frequently tried to get colored policemen in this district. They feel the white policemen are not in sympathy with them in their cause at any time, and are a source of police nusiance to them rather than one of public comfort.

Harry Crawford operates a pool room on Miller near Maxwell Street. He states that he had come out of a restaurant at the Northeast corner of 14th and Miller Streets, was walking North on the East side of the street about 11 o'clock or a few minutes thereafter on the evening of October 8th. He saw someone get out of a Ford Car and attempt to pull a young woman in the car. Soon the car sped North and the girl began screaming. He ran in the direction the car was going. Two or three white men overtook him, he states, and wanted to know what he was doing to that "broad." He told them he had nothing to do with the girl: that the fellow was going in the flivver. As he was about to go further a man struck at him, glancing a blow on the left side of his jaw. He returned the blow and started to run. A few paces behind him he saw another colored man, and heard them jumping on and beating him, but he ran on North to his pool room. Soon thereafter the police squad came in, made everybody in the pool room stick up their hands and face the wall much in the form that stick up men do, and searched every one. Crawford states that it appears to him that the men who drove the car attempted to drag the women in the car was not a colored man, but a white man; that he understood the girl so told a reporter for a local newspaper.

Dangerous Situation

I consider the situation among the Negroes very tense in view of the fact that there has been a repitition of these offenses about which the police seem to be very indifferent. Some men stated that Jews of that neighborhood have been known to be picked up with revolvers in their pockets who would leave Maxwell Street Station with these same revolvers in their pockets, making threats about what they would do to the Negroes in the neighborhood. One man named Levine, who lives and operates a store at the corner of Maxwell and Miller Streets was given as an example of this type of thing that disturbs the peace in the neighborhood.

Negroes feel that whenever any injustice is done to them in that district, the Maxwell police merely make a jesture and nothing further is done to justify their grievance. They were congregated in groups in pool rooms, restaurants and on corners at the time of my visit, and they freely stated that only lack of ammunition prevented them from getting the protection which they feel they are due, and for which they have hardly any reason to believe the police will give cooperation.

The situation unquestionabley needs very careful handling, and the Peoples Protective Circle has done much to bring about better treatment and more protection for negroes.

Chicago Whip

INVESTIGATION SHOWS THAT FACTS WERE NOT AS PUBLISHED IN PRESS

Names of Four White Men Who Visited Hospital and Warned Lad He Would Not Live Even If He Recovered Shot Wound Given to Governor.

N. Y. Amsterdam News
12-31-24

Walter F. White, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has returned from Nashville, Tenn., bringing with him a full report of the lynching of a fifteen-year-old boy lying wounded at the point of death in a local hospital.

Mr. White tells of a visit to the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church of Nashville, where the boy, Sammie Smith, was lying in his coffin. The story, as it was told Mr. White by local colored people, was as follows:

"Until last May Sammie worked for a white man named Preston Lee, at [illegible], Tenn., eight or ten miles from Nashville. One day in that month Lee beat Sammie Smith. Sammie quit and went to Nashville, where he got a job with the [illegible] Co. All Summer he worked there, turning over his wages to his mother to help provide for the [illegible] and nine children. Cold weather came and the need of ice dropped off, so Sammie was discharged. He then went to live alternately with his uncle, Eugene Smith, and grandmother in Arlington.

"On Friday, December 12, Sammie and his uncle went to Nashville in the latter's Ford. Late that night they started back to Arlington. As they hurried along near Nolansville, about one o'clock in the morning, the car went into a ditch, turning over. The man and boy righted it, but found one of the parts broken. Leaving Sammie in the car, Eugene went to a garage nearby to get a new part for his car. When Eugene did not return Sammie went in search of him. He met Eugene coming towards the car and behind him walked a white man holding a gun on Eugene. The garage belonged to the owner of the gun and he had caught Eugene in the act of leaving what he needed.

"'This boy with you?' the white man asked Eugene.

"'Yes, sir,' was the answer.

"'Then come along with me—I'm going to put you in jail, too!' the white man declared, according to Sammie.

"Sammie whipped out a gun and fired. The white man returned the fire, shooting Sammie through the stomach."

Sammie spent the night in an open field, being found unconscious the next morning, when he was carried first to jail and then to the Nashville General Hospital. Though his wound was fatal, he was chained to the iron bed.

Just after midnight of Monday a group of masked men entered the hospital, covered the hospital custodian with shotguns, searched the hospital ward to find the dying boy. Commanded to get up, the boy could not. The mob sawed through the chain which held him to the bed, took him out to the country, hanged him to an oak tree and fired forty or fifty rounds of buckshot through his abdomen.

Mr. White declared the lynching came after innumerable insults and cruelties against the colored people of Nashville, including striking of colored women on street cars, murder of a colored

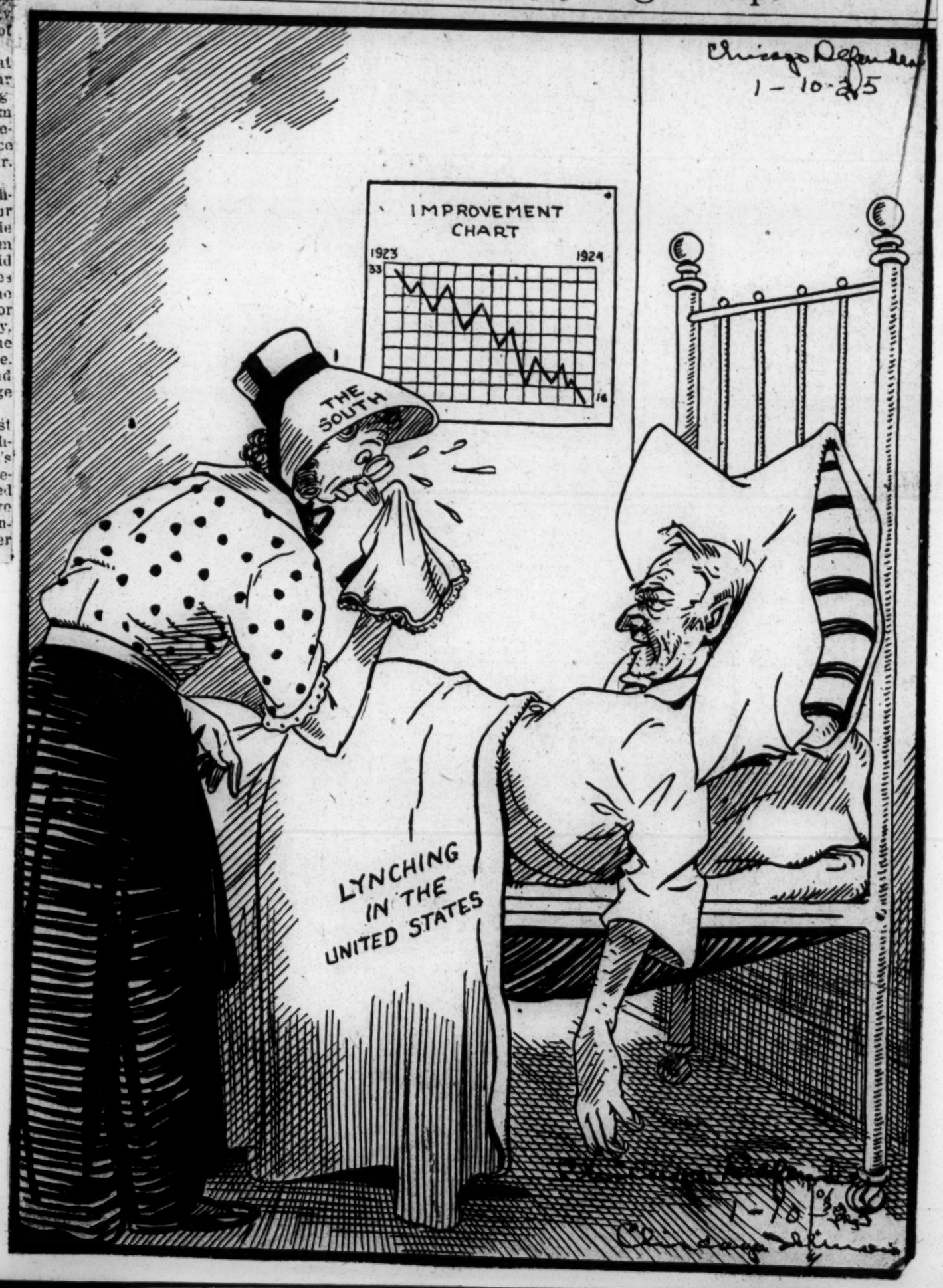
man by a local white divekeeper, who has gone unpunished, and the shooting of a Pullman porter by Lem Motlow, owner of a Kentucky distillery, who was acquitted of the charge of murder.

Mr. White further reports that the Ku Klux Klan is strong near Nolansville, scene of the lynching. Asked why the 15-year-old victim of the mob had been carrying a revolver, people in every instance used the same words to Mr. White: "The Klan. . . ."

Mr. White, before leaving Nashville, obtained the names of four white men who called on Sammie Smith in the hospital and told him he would never live, even if he did not die of his wound. These names Mr. White gave, together with the men's addresses, to Governor Peay, Mayor House, Sheriff Briley, Chief of Police Smith and the Nashville Chamber of Commerce. "No clues" have as yet been found by the authorities, despite large rewards offered.

"I talked with one of the most prominent colored men of Nashville," says Mr. White. "'It's mighty fine for them to offer a reward, don't you think?' I asked him. 'They might as easily have offered a million,' he returned cynically. 'They know they'll never have to pay any of it.'"

Is He Dying or Just Taking a Nap?



Lynchings-1924.
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

1614

4218 LYNCHED IN 39 YEARS

Afro American

"Black Spots on the Map" is the title of an interesting study of lynching just published by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. In the thirty-nine years ending with 1923 American mobs took the lives of 4,128 persons. Of the victims, 1,036 were white and 3,146 Negro.

7-11-24

Eighty-five of the number were women, 17 of them white and 68 Negro. Hundreds more not included in the 4,128, were killed during the period in race riots, most of them innocent of any offense, as in Tulsa, East St. Louis, Ill., Washington and Chicago.

Every State in the Union except four has had one or more lynchings in the 39 years, the exceptions being Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont

LYNCHING EVIL IS HALTED BY PUBLICITY

Afro American
10-31-24

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 24.—James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in an address delivered tonight before the Conference on Inter-Racial Justice, in Social Service Building, asserted that in the past there had been sporadic efforts to abolish lynching but the first organized, systematic, persistent and financed effort to end lynching in America, made during the last eight years by the N. A. A. C. P. was mainly responsible for the sharp decline in the number of lynchings per year for thirty years prior to 1919 was 101, and that the recent figures were:

1919	83
1920	65
1921	64
1922	61
1923	28
1924 (thus far)	9

In the campaign against lynching, said Mr. Johnson, more than $50,000 had been raised and expended by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. First, investigators, often at risk of their lives, had obtained the facts concerning lynching, had obtained the facts concerning lynching, and the statistics were studied and collated, being published in the first and only comprehensive and authentic work on the subject, "Thirty Years of Lynching."

Furthermore, more than 2,500 mass meetings have been held and addressed, millions of pieces of literature distributed, and facts and figures published not only in America but throughout the civilized world.

FEW LYNCHED IN CATHOLIC STATES

Protestants And Especially Baptists Are Most Lawless

COL. MINKINS HERE

Providence, R. I., Editor Of White Daily Praises Spirit Of Catholics

Analysis of the lynching record by religions shows that the Protestants and especially the Baptists are the most lawless elements in the United States, according to Col. John C. Minkins, editor of the *Providence Tribune*, a white daily.

Afro American

Colonel and Mrs. Minkin were in the city this week as the guests of Rev. and Mrs. George F. Bragg, Jr., of McCulloh Street. The Minkins and Braggs are life long friends and Dr. Bragg claims the distinction of having started Colonel Minkins off in the newspaper business down in Virginia forty years ago.

9-26-24

EDITS WHITE DAILY

Now Colonel Minkins lives in Pawtucket, R. I., but he is one of the few colored editors of a white daily newspaper in the United States.

On the matter of lynching records, the Colonel said in one of the recent years there were 52 lynchings in the United States. By section there were 51 in the South and one in the North; by races, 51 were Negroes and one white; by religion, only four per cent were in Catholic States like Louisiana. Ninety-six per cent were in States where protestants are in the majority and 79 per cent in states like Georgia, Alabama and Texas where Baptists are in the majority.

BAPTISTS MOST LAWLESS

These records show that Protestants and especially Baptists constitute the most lawless element.

It may also indicate that when the fight comes between the Protestant and Catholic elements in this Country the Negro may find it more to his advantage to align himself to the Catholic element which is proving itself more respectful of his life, liberty and happiness.

INTRODUCED TO TILLMAN

Several years ago, Colonel Minkins was introduced to Ben Tillman, the great South Carolina Negro hater, wis wife and daughter, by friends who forgot that he was colored. When somebody told Tillman the truth, his only remark was.

"Colonel Minkins ought to go out West and pass for an Italian or a foreigner."

N. A. A. C. P. HUMBLES AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Pittsburgh Commission

THE pomp and splendor of the American Bar Association in annual session a few days ago in London, England, must have been overshadowed when the N. A. A. C. P. carried its anti-lynching fight across the Atlantic before the American lawyers. The Association engaged men who carried placards conspicuously through the streets inscribed with such captions as "American Lawyers—How About Burning Alive of Human Beings in Your Country," "Fight for Law Enforcement." Although three thousand miles from home, these guardians of the bulwarks of American liberty were approached in a most appealing manner on the subject of America's pastime—lynching. At home, they could ignore the matter so generally is the evil disregarded. The results already obtained from the campaign in London, presages hearty support from the civilized world.

8-22-24

The American Bar Association is very largely responsible for the failure of law enforcement in the United States. Composed of approximately one hundred thousand members of the bar and bench, it controls all legal thought and action. It has never considered lynching as a serious problem before the American people since, by far, the greatest number of sufferers have been Negroes. It has been content to ignore the barbarous practice as a sectional problem to be handled by the local people. In its failure to propose suitable legislation to be passed by Congress thus making lynching a federal offense, it has lost its greatest opportunity of service to the nation, because the evil has spread until it has become national in its scope, embracing white and black victims alike.

Now that the N. A. A. C. P. has acquainted these honorable sirs with the gravity of the situation and caused them to be timely rebuked while sojourning in the Mother country, it is to be hoped that they will accord this greatest shame of the civilized world its proper consideration and give their whole hearted support to make the United States a safe place in which to live.

MAJ. R. R. MOTON THANKS CAROLINA FOR TREATMENT

1614

Especially Thanks Executive For Lynching Record Made By State

RALEIGH, Dec. 6.—Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, in a conference with Wm. H. Richardson, private secretary to Governor Morrison of North Carolina, reported that the state had been free of lynchings for nearly four years and had the following to say of the governor:

Chicago Whip

12-6-24

"We are especially appreciative of what has been done during Governor Morrison's administration toward the preventing of lynchings.

Chicago Whip

"The sentiment of our people throughout the country towards North Carolina for its general policy with reference to the negro, especially educational and the eradication of the lynching evil, is most appreciative. We point with pride to the fact that your state is taking the lead in inter-racial co-operation and in the general improvement of race relations."

THE IMPULSE TO LYNCHING

According to the newspaper dispatches one day last week, the cry of the white mob to "lynch the nigger" was raised not far from the seat of national government, namely at Alexandria, Virginia. The cause for this far too common cry, so frequently raised below the Mason and Dixon line, was no alleged assault by "a burly black brute" upon a white woman. It was an ordinary altercation, growing out of the entrance of several colored men into a general store to make some purchases. While waiting, one of the party took a pair of gloves, which the storekeeper claimed he intended to steal. Although he offered to pay for them, the quarrel waxed so warm, that blows were exchanged and the storekeeper was stabbed or cut. He then pursued the Negro to the street trying to strike him with a cleaver.

As soon as the fugitive was perceived by the white loungers in the street, pursued by the white storekeeper, the cry of "lynch him" was raised and found responsive chord in every breast. The unanimity with which every white man joined in the cry and suited his action to the word was significant of this phase of mob psychology. Without waiting to find out the rights of the case, whether the fugitive had really attempted or committed any crime or not, all these village loafers were ready to take his life. Is this the normal spirit of the average white man of the South? Is he so imbruted by fear or hatred of a black skin, that he is always willing to join in the hue and cry to lynch or burn the wearer of one? It would seem so.

In his recent novel, "The Fire of the Flint," Walter A. White has depicted this phase of Southern character so faithfully as to make his book a mental photograph of this awful side of the Southern situation. Murder and rapine are the meat and drink upon which the present civilization of the South, if it may be called such, are founded. The abnormal conditions growing out of such a basis of living, in its influence upon both races, are set forth in his story with the impressive development of a Greek tragedy. The logical sequence of events is set in motion by thereturn of the young Negro physician, with his Northern training, to open his office in his Southern home; one can but follow his career with a sense of impending fatality in the air. As a picture of the worst side of the Southern situation, so far as the progressive Negro is concerned, it should be a revelation to the white American who thinks in terms of modern civilization.

The mob spirit that is so graphically delineated by Mr. White in his book, is the same spirit that cropped out in this Alexandria incident. It is latent, if not too often ampant, in every Southern community. The North is not altogether free from it. but fear of the law is stronger here because of better enforcement, and the mob lust is kept in subjection by the civil authorities, if not by the fear of God.

What is needed is to put the fear of God into the heart of the South. Replace the fear or hatred of the black man, which is instilled into the whites as soon as they get beyond intancy, by the fear of God and the love of humanity, regardless of complexion. If the Christian church is anxious to carry out the purposes of its founder, the opportunity is here before it. No benighted heathen is in greater need of missionary effort than the Southern communities, whose whole spirit is possessed with the lust to kill and torture their fellows, because they wear a darker skin. No missionary effort calls for a greater spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion than the endeavor to convert the white South from savagery and lust to the creed of the lowly Nazarene, who enjoined His followers: "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

The impulse to lynching must be replaced by a more civilized method of thought and action. How to effect this substitution should be the problem which the missionary boards of the several Christian denominations should set out to solve. It is no longer a Negro problem; it is the question of saving white civilization in the South.

N. A. A. C. P. Anti-Lynching Campaign Chief Cause

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 4.—James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in an address delivered tonight before the conference on Inter-Racail Justice, in Social Service Building, asserted that in the past there had been sporadic efforts to abolish lynching but the "first organized, systematic, persistent and financed effort "to end lynching in America, made during the last eight years by the N. A. A. C. P. was mainly responsible for the sharp decline in the number of lynchings during the last five years. In support of his statement. Mr. Johnson said that the average number of lynchings per year for thirty years prior to 1910 was 107, and that the recent figures were: 1919, 83; 1920, 65; 1921, 64; 1922, 61; 1923, 28; 1924, thus far, 9.

In the campaign against lynching said Mr. Johnson, more than $50,000 had been raised and expended by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. First, investigators, often at risk of their lives, had obtained the facts concerning lynching, and the statistics were studied and collated, being published in the first and only comprehensive and authentic work on the subject: "Thirty Years of Lynching."

Furthermore, more than 2,500 mass meetings have been held and addressed, millions of pieces of literature distributed, and facts and figures published not only inAmerica but throughout the civilized world This campaign, according to Mr. Johnson, "cut at the main root of the lynching evil, the lie that the Negro was by nature a rapist and that lynching was meted out solely as punishment for that crime."

This anti-lynching campaign prepared the way for the introduction of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in Congress where it was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119, and although the Bill was stopped by fillbuster, in the Senate, the floor of Congress "proved a forum in which to have the question of lynching discussed, a forum which had the ears of the whole country and so the effect upon the national conscience was tremendous." Many of the facts and figures used in debate on the floor of Congress were supplied to Representatives by the N. A. A. C. P.

"When the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was being discussed in Congress," said Mr. Johnson, "and the Southern members arose in all their ignorance of the facts to reiterate the old statement that Negroes were lynched for rape and for the protection of white womanhood, the authentic cases of 83 women lynched, with the names, dates and localities given, stopped their mouths.

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Discussions.

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Lynching Is Denounced as "Barbarism"

NEW YORK, Feb. 14—Denouncing lynching as the vilest barbarism 2000 people stormed Abyssinian Baptist Church, In Harlem, to protest against mob violence and register their support of the Dyer Anti-Lynching legislation. It was the second of the series of mass meetings held under the auspices of the N. A. A. C. P. with James Weldon Johnson, National secretary presiding anti-lynching legislation is aimed at a special section of the country and not at the North, Congressman Hamilton Fish, Jr., said in his opening remarks. "I took the boys South in their American uniforms," declared the Congressman, "and I witnessed the insults they were mercilessly subjected to. What they desire is justice and they should have it. Continued the speaker, "What they demand is a right to educate their children, to work and enjoy full proceeds from work, to own property and have that property protected by law, and demand the right of protection by law for all of their Race in all parts of the country."

TO ERADICATE LYNCHING STARTED BY THE Y.W.C.A.

Resolution Adopted by National Board Urges the Entire Association Body To Create Opinion Against Mob Law.

Seeking to arouse public opinion concerning the lives lost yearly through mob violence and lynching, the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association announced Sunday that they are urging their entire Association body to seek to create public opinion against them.

The action was taken in resolution form, approved and passed by the National Board, the executive body of the Associations in the United States. On the Committee on Colored Work of the National organization which first passed the resolution, colored women have equal representation.

Following their acceptance, the resolution was brought before the National Board and approved as a policy for all Associations. The text of the resolution as given out yesterday was as follows:

"While a growing interpretation of brotherhood has reduced the toll of life through lynching during the last year some fifty per cent. there is still imperative need for a nation-wide campaign in education which will result not only in the enactment of laws, but the enforcement of such laws.

"As law enforcement depends upon right attitudes of mind, we, the Council on Colored Work of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, would urge upon our entire Association body, a new and earnest effort to create right public opinion toward the complete eradication of mob violence and lynching in this country."

Mrs. George Haynes, the colored woman who has recently been elected a member of the Board, is also on the committee. Mrs. Richard Westbrook of Brooklyn is chairman. Sitting with Mrs. John D. Rockefeller jr., Mrs. John Hanna of Dallas and other women members were Mrs. Ruth Logan Roberts of New York, Mrs. Charlotte Hawkins Brown of Sedalia, N.C., Mrs. Frank Williams of St. Louis, and Miss Eva D. Bowles, head of the National Y. W. C. A. work for colored girls and women. Miss Bowles serves as executive secretary for the Council.

"The function of the Council is to discuss frankly and freely issues that affect both races and to promote better feeling and understanding," said Miss Bowles. "The Council also acts in an advisory capacity on interracial questions for the National Board.

Y. W. C. A. work for Negro girls reaches over 25,000 members, including 8,000 Girl Reserve, girls in their teens. Sixty-five branches are maintained; 4,065 colored women work on committees as volunteers, raising money and helping in other capacities to maintain the work for girls of their own race.

An outgrowth of the work among colored students has led to the appointment of Miss Juliett Derricotte, National student secretary, as delegate to the Worl's Student Christian Federation at High Leigh, England, in July, to represent Negro women students of America. She is one of three college trained young women who visit Negro schools and colleges for the Y. W. C. A.

In recognition of the honor conferred upon Miss Derricotte, her office staff entertained her Thursday afternoon at the home of Miss Winnifred Wygal, 126 Claremont avenue. A delicious repast was served and many beautiful gifts were showered upon Miss Derricotte by members of the group. The guests included many "Y" workers of both races.

M. E. General Conference Denounces Lynchers And Ku Klux

Episcobal Address Takes High Ground For Law Enforcement

The Episcopal Address of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session at Springfield, Mass., was replete with sound Christian principles and sounded the keynote of the leaders of this great church on many issues peculiarly important to the Negro group.

It demands observance of law, not alone of the prohibition amendment but in the protection of life and denounces lynchers as traitors and outlaws and Ku lKuxers as in the same class.

The following excerpt from the address will command universal approval of all law-abiding citizens:

Observance of Law

"It will not be denied that there is something radically wrong with the attitude of the public toward the observance of law and the orderly administration of justice. This is due, in part at least, to the feeling that in some communities our courts of justice lack the moral force which should dominate them. In certain cases the law is used to shield the criminal rather than to afford protection to society. But deplorable as this is, it affords no possible justification for any group of citizens to take the administration of law into their own hands. Lynch law is an abomination and an outrage. Those who are guilty of any connection with it are traitors and outlaws. No American can assume to be patriotic who does not denounce it with hot indignation. Scarcely less reprehensible is any organization which secretly discriminates against an American citizen because of race, color or religious faith, and arrogates to itself the authority of the courts to deal with those suspected of wrongdoing. Such secret policies are essentially un-American, and are a menace to society and to the state. Patriotic Americans will demand with increasing emphasis the equitable administration of all laws. And they will also maintain an attitude of unrelenting hostility to every form of lawlessness, whether it is perpetrated by a defiant individual criminal, or under the auspices of an organization whose activities are shrouded in mystery, and whose unknown representatives execute its orders under the protection of secrecy.

Interracial Co-operation

One of the finest expressions of our Christianity of today is the effort of many groups and agencies in various sections of our country for the promotion of good will, mutual confidence, and brotherly co-operation between the races.. Those movements to bridge the chasm of interracial misunderstanding and hate, meet our hearty approval and are worthy of our sympathy and co-operation. The work has not been carried forward without much prayer the leadership of Him whose great commandment is to love thy neighbor as thyself. Among the agencies which we should heartily support are the Universal Commission Commission. composed of southern educators; the Interracial Commission, composed of both races, men and women; and the Commission of Interracial relation of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ. We call our people to associate themselves actively with these agencies and other organizations for the promotion of peace and good will toward all men everywhere, so that there shall be less friction and more confidence, less hatred and more co-operation, less suspicion and more confidence, less hatred and more Christian love.

We urge upon our representatives in both branches of Congress the prompt enactment of legislation for the wiping out of lynching, which is "the blask spot on America's soul."

The World's Urgent Need

Is our civilization to survive? Does it face perils which threaten its ultimate overthrow?

We boast of our wealth, our culture and our patriotism. These things we may say, insure for us permanent safety and increasing strength. So said Babylon when she beheld her massive towers. So said Persia when she hedl sway over half the earth. So said Greece when she contemplated the splendors of her templed cities. So said Rome when she was in the zenith of her imperial powers. But these civilizations went down, and are buried in the dust heaps of history?

Why did they go down? Let history answer. And let history warn us that our civilization may be facing forces quite as destructive as those which rotted the foundations and sapped the vitality of empires which have passed away.

Do we not need to make a new appraisal of human values? We overvalue might and undervalue right. We overvalue knowledge and undervalue the phrasing of truth and undervalue truth itself. We overvalue worldly achievements and undervalue moral conquest. We overvalue the forms of religion and undervalue its dynamic life. We overvalue things of the present and undervalue the uncountable riches of the life eternal.

The inevitable outcome of such false valuations shows itself in certai ncurrent trends which should alar mus. In the presence of these situations it is folly to close our eyes to the truth and cry "Peace, peace," when there is no peace. We need a revival of the prophetic office. We need prophets whose chief function is not to foretell future events, but those with eyes to see and courage to declare the threatening perils of the present. We need leaders who dare draw aside the veil from in front of the ugly realities of the world's fate, an dshow to us our national and intenational follies. We need prophets in the pulpit, prophets in our great newspapers, prophets in our schools and universities, and prophets in our halls of legislation.

How humiliatnig have been the failures of world diplomacy! Leader after leader has fallen. Plan after plan has failed. Both radical and reactionary experiments have been tried and tried in vain. The world stands bewildered and baffled in the presence of giant perplexities for which there seems to be no immediate solution."

GETS JUDGMENT AGAINST JOHN LEWIS

Washington, May 10.—A judgment fo $1,523.35 with interest and cost was obtained against John W. Lewis by Major Toles in Circuit Court, No. 2, on a note given for the purchase of two lots.

Ownership Dispute

The ownership of the two lots, for the purchase of which the note was given, has been one of the things under dispute among the stockholders of the Whitelaw Hotel, of which John W. Lewis is the president.

These two lots were purchased from Jaor Toles. At the time it was thought that they were bought for the Whitelaw Apartment House Corporation. Cancelled checks of the corporation show that nearly $450 of its money was used in paying interest on the two lots.

It developed later, however, that the purchase was made for Mr. Lewis personally. This was discovered when a tennis club sought to rent the lots for a court. Lewis notified the directors of the corporation that it was a matter that would have to be arranged through him personally.

During the recent investigation, the ownership of these lots was brought into question. It was then brought out that title to them had been transferred from John W. Lewis to his wife.

In one of the meetings of the corporation held for the purpose of hearing the report of the investigating committee, Major Toles told all about the purchase of these lots. He said that they were obtained by him for the purpose of selling to the Whitelaw Hotel Corpoation for the erection of an additional wing to the hotel. He said to Mr. Lewis and was given the note on which suit was brought. He alleged that shortly after the sale and before the lots had been paid for, Mr. Lewis put a $3,000 mortgage on them. He is still without his money.

Stockholders Lose Interest

Seemingly the stockholders in the Whitelaw Hotel Corporation are losing interest in the proposed reorganization of the company. Two meetings were held recently, but they were poorly attended and very little business was transacted.

Five new directors have been elected, but the meetings broke up before the remaining two were selectd. The old directors, howver, have refused to turn over the affairs of the corporation to the newly elected directors. They claim that the election was illegal.

Meanwhile the time is drawing near when payments must be made on the outstanding obligations of the corporation or else the property will be held at public auction.

LYNCHING THE LAW

THE EVENING WORLD editor believes that it is Northern more than Southern mobs that have shocked the nation into a realization that lynching a man means lynching the law, and that civilization cannot exist where law is lynched. His conclusions are drawn from the fact that "mobs in the South have centered usually on a single culprit, while in the North the mob has struck indiscriminately at a race." So long as lynching was distinctly a Southern "pastime"; so long as the victims had a tinge of African blood in their veins, the great North, East and West made no concerted or single effort to check the thousands of murders of innocent—in most cases—black people by the dominant, blood-thirsty whites. Southern propagandists had told them that "the South knows best how to care for the Negro." They evidently believed it.

BUT THE MOB SPIRIT spread beyond the cotton and sugar cane section and the white man, too, became the victim of the white man. Again the white mobs in the North were met by black mobs, something foreign to the South, with results disastrous to both factions. The mob spirit is the same wherever found. It is the single culprit in the North as well as in the South that starts the ball rolling, but the setting is far different. Most people need to have a wrong brought right to their own doors before they get backbone enough to strike it a death blow.

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS prepared at Tuskegee institute, 28 lynchings were perpetrated in 1923. Just 28 too many for a country that boasts of having reached the highest pinnacle of civilization. The fact that this record is the lowest in years brings a ray of hope that the forces which have for years been working to arouse public conscience to the evils of lynching and mob law in general, are at last reaping some reward for their labors.

Y. W. C. A. BOARD OPPOSES LYNCHING

The National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association yesterday announced the adoption of a resolution demanding the enactment and enforcement of laws against lynching. The National Board is the national executive body of the association. The resolution which it adopted had formerly been passed by the Council on Colored Work.

The Council on Colored Work consists of: Mrs. Richard Westbrook, chairman; Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Mrs. John Hanna, Mrs. B. B. Munford, and the following colored women: Mrs George Haynes, Mrs. Ruth Logan Roberts, Mrs. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Mrs. Frank Williams, and Mrs. Eva D. Bowles.

"Black Spots on the Map" is one title of an interesting study of lynching just published by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. In the 39 years ending with 1923 American mobs took the lives o f4,128 persons. Of the victims, 1,036 were white and 3,146 were Negro.

Eighty-five of the number were women, 15 of them white and 68 Negro. Hundreds more, not included in the 4,128, were killed during the period in race riots, most of them innocent of any offense, as in Tulsa, East St. Louis, Ill., Washington and Chicago.

Every State in the Union except four has had one or more lynchings in the 39 years, the exceptions being Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

The study shows that many of the victims were guilty of nothing, having been put to death as the result of mistaken identity, unfounded suspicion, of wild mob madness. Many were lynched for the most trivial offenses—"stealing hogs," "creating disturbance," "quarrel with employer," "failing to turn out of road," "not knowing his place," "assisting man to escape" and "striking man in altercation."

Homicides are said to have been the occasion of less than half the lynchings—about two-fifths, to be exact.

Actual or attempted criminal assault—the "usual crime" that many people think of as the sole cause of lynchings—was alleged in less than one-fourth of the cases. Sometimes the mere suspicion of such a purpose has been enough to put the mob in action.

In one series of lynchings in 1918, the Interracial Commission says at least six persons, possibly more, were put to death for murder with which only one of them, so far as could be learned, had any connection whatever. One of the number was a widow whose husband had just been lynched. Her only offense was the fact that she said she would not report her husband's murderers if she knew who they were.

"Many of the victims were tortured, mutilated, burned at stake with a ferocity unbelievable among civilized people," says the Interracial Commission. "The woman mentioned above, for example, was hung to a limb by her feet, her body riddled with bullets and was then ripped o penwith knives. Not infrequently vast multitudes of men and women have gathered to see human victims tortured with hot irons, slashed with knives and slowly roasted to death.

Even children have sometimes been the witnesses of these horrors. In some cases officers sworn to uphold the law have themselves taken part in lynchings. Hundreds of prisoners have been turned over to mobs without an effort for their protection."

The Commission believes that lynchings are on the decrease.

Lynchings—1924
Discussions.

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Other Papers Say

LYNCHERS' LITTLE MISTAKES

[POST DISPATCH, ST. LOUIS, MO.]

It is quite possible that the people of Pulaski county, Illinois, have been spared, by the prompt action of the sheriff in sending prisoners away for safekeeping, from lynching the wrong person or persons, at least concerning whose identity and guilt there is no certainty.

Several years ago a young woman was murdered at Cairo and on the confusing and contradictory proof provided by bloodhounds a man was arrested. Then, as now, the sheriff took him away but was overtaken and the man was lynched, in the face of the sheriff's assurance that he was not the right man.

Later another man, accused jointly with the lynched one on the same proof, was tried and acquitted. It was too late then, of course, to make amends to the man who had been lynched without proof.

In the present case, wherein a girl was shot and killed at Villa Ridge in the course of a robbery, identification of the Negroes who have been arrested is doubtful. The father of the girl, after saying he could not identify the Negroes, announced, possibly under mob pressure, that he could identify one and did identify one.

Of course, if the mob had had its way and had lynched the suspects, and it should appear later that they had lynched the wrong man, it would be unfortunate, but little mischances like that are to be expected where mob law prevails, for the mob's way is to hang men first and try them afterward.

WOMAN CLUBBED BY POLICE, AS CROWD LOOKS ON

That mob rule still prevails to a great extent in the South is attested to by the Corresponding Secretary of the National Baptist convention, who in his travel in the South, was brought face to face with conditions which have put to rout the talk of better treatment of Negroes in the South which has been broadcasted so frequently during the past 6 months. Writing in the Mission Herald, the official organ of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist convention, the Secretary says:

"As we travel over the Southland through the states of South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana, we were constantly studying the conditions of our people and the relation of the races. In many places, the tremendous progress being made by the colored people is most gratifying. Many of them are doing so well and living under such good circumstances they would not think of breaking up their homes and leaving the South, yet, mob rule often threatens to shake the very foundation of our people's security in every part of the South. One doesn't read so much now in papers about people as was read a few years ago. It is being argued everywhere that the white man is treating the colored man better, only to keep him in the Southland. This argument is made because so much less is seen in the papers of mob rule these days; but during our last trip over the Southland, we were made to wonder more than once whether or not the press is only as silent as to lynch and mob rule, which is as widely prevalent today as it was before the migration.

The very Saturday we got into Pine Bluff, Ark., the policeman at the station, a very rough kind of a man, started a little row that almost led to a race riot. In some way he brushed against a colored girl. She resented his action. He knocked her down. The husband of this young woman said: "She is my wife; you need not hit her like that to arrest her. At once the policeman struck him down. While he was beating the colored woman who was probably 25 or 26 years of age, another little colored man walked up with fire in his eyes, his lips quivering, his blood almost to the boiling point, and said to the officer: "Stop beating that girl. If you hit her again, you will never hit any one else in this world." The chief of police, who was standing near by, at once joined in, and raised his club to strike this brave colored man, but the colored man enjoined quickly as he called the name of the chief of police: "Do not hit me: you can arrest me, but I beg you, do not hit me today." The chief of police must have seen something in this little Negro for he changed his mind and did not strike him. The girl, who was bleeding from the beating by the policeman's club, together with her husband and the other gentleman who intervened, was started off to jail but somehow she broke loose and ran away from the police. He shot at three times in quick succession. Another policeman rearrested her. When another colored man, one of the hundreds who had gathered around remarked that it was a shame for that poor colored girl to beaten up like that, he was at once arrested. All were lodged in jail, and no plea to bond the young woman so that she might have medical attention had any effect on the powers that be, and all had to stay in jail that night. On Wednesday morning a lawyer was secured so that the best terms would be gotten for the prisoners. Witnesses on the stand stated clearly that the policeman had unnecessarily beaten up this young woman and her husband. The chief of police witnessed against the other man that he swore, and said if the policeman hit that girl again, he would not hit anyone else in this world. This brave young fellow still revealed his manhood. He told them, "I am a church member, I have never sworn since I have been in church. The chief of police has made a mistake. He may have heard some one else swearing, but I did say if the policeman hit that woman again, he would never hit any one else in this world, and I meant it." All present, white and black, could not help admiring the real manhood that was demonstrated in every look and act of that young colored fellow. The court put a light fine of $10.00 on the man and wife, and on the young man who intervened, a fine of $25.00. The latter at once told the court the best thing for him to do was to sell out everything he had and go away, for he saw that no colored man could get a square deal in that town. The chief of police called him back into his office and talked with him very kindly, and advised him always in the future when he saw a fight, to get away, and not to stand anywhere near. In other words, if he saw a great big officer mercilessly beating up a little colored woman, he must leave the scene and not stand anywhere near. The Ministers' Alliance decided to take the matter up, and make a petition to the government. We have heard no more about it. We have carefully watched the papers for this incident that caused so much excitement around the station at Pine Bluff, where hundreds of colored people gathered while this beating was going on, but not one line appeared in the papers concerning it. To the reading public, everything was calm and pleasant, and the races were getting along fine in Pine Bluff when this happened.

The day before we got into Meridian, Miss., a mob had gone to the jail in one of the nearby towns and taken out a colored man and hanged him without a trial. He was accused of assaulting some white woman. We saw an account of that in the press.

Some few days before we reached Canton, Miss, two officers had gone to a country place to arrest a man who was supposed to be stopping with his brother, but the men could not find him, though the house was searched. Late in the night, they returned to the house, and asked for him. They were told that the brother had not turned up. They wanted to search the place, and did search it all but one room where some young ladies were sleeping. The owner of the house asked them not to go into that room, as young ladies were insisted and at such insistence, one sleeping there. The second time he of the officers said to him, "You don't know whom I am," reaching for his gun at the same time. The wife of the colored man jumped in between her husband and the white officer begging for her husband, but to no avail. He simply reached over the shoulder of the wife, and shot the colored man dead, and leisurely went on back to town. This incident did not appear in any of the daily papers. To the reading world, everything was going all right in Canton the day it happened.

We were just wondering, as we see these sad conditions, whether or not many things are happening throughout the Southland that are being withheld from the press in order that public sentiment might not be in favor of migration of the Negro folk.

A LESSON IN MOB LAW

THE LYNCHING of Major Robert Imbrie, American vice consul at Teheran, by a Persian mob brought home to the people of this land in a most forceful way the gruesome picture of hundreds of American citizens suffering the same fate on American soil at the hands of their fellow American brothers for reasons more flimsy than the one advanced for the murdering of our gallant consul. The editor of the Macon (Ga.) Telegraph, a large white daily, says: "For us it is a lesson in mob law. A lesson of what an American citizen, even an American official far from home and in the land of another people, can suffer in the way of mob violence."

IT IS THE SAME OLD STORY—the shoe must pinch our own foot before we can really appreciate the discomfort complained of by the other fellow who is suffering. This newspaper has repeatedly pointed out the danger of allowing mobs of irresponsible and criminally inclined men to override constituted authorities and to mete out whatever brand of punishment their addled brains prescribed. We pointed out the fact that if the mob spirit were not checked the lynching element would not stop at black victims, but would prey upon their own and every other nationality.

OUR PREDICTION has come true. It is not uncommon now to hear of a white man or a white woman being lynched in many parts of our country. Deplorable? Yes; but perhaps it takes just this thing to arouse public sentiment, which so long has lain dormant on this crime, to a point where some drastic action will be taken to crush out the mob spirit. It would be ridiculous to say that the law abiding element is powerless, even in the South, to force those with lawless tendencies to obey the law.

BUT UNQUESTIONABLY they have been weak brothers and sisters. They have been willing to close their eyes and their ears to the injustices heaped upon a certain group of people so long as they were not personally molested. This is cowardice of the worst type. As we reap what we sow, the lives that are being snuffed out of the Caucasian race by mobs that have been encouraged by the passiveness of the "best citizens" may be the toll exacted by our Creator of those who fail to do their duty when they see it.

ON TO PERSIA

By William Pickens

Associated Negro Press.

A mob killed an American over there. That must not be tolerated. Our government must have a thorough investigation. Of course, mobs kill Americans in Georgia, but that's different. We do not need to investigate about Georgia, we already know about that. Then, too, we have some authority over Georgia, while we haven't a bit of authority over Persia, we could do something in Georgia; it is doubtful whether we can do anything in Persia

Therefore, on to Persia. Something must be done there.

That was a "religious mob" that killed one American in Persia. Those are thoroughly irreligious mobs that have killed 450 Americans in Georgia. Therefore, on to Persia! Never mind Georgia. We must give Georgia a chance to teach Persia a little lesson.

That American in Persia was violating the religious sentiments of the mob. But the Georgia mobs don't have any religious sentiments. Where as and therefore, the Persian mob ought to be punished.

What a savage country Persia is, to kill one American in a sudden and fanatical religious frenzy. They don't even know how to cooly and deliberately burn fourteen in a single year as the United States did in 1919.

On to Persia!

TEXAS LOST VISIT FROM THE PRINCE

Lynching Record Kept Out Royalty

Dallas, Texas, Sept. 26.—Texas, the biggest state in the Union with a lynching record as broad as its boundaries, invited the Prince of Wales to enjoy its hospitality. It dispatched beautifully engrossed invitations to the Prince urging his royal highness to look in upon them on his short stay here.

The Prince in return gave them the "cold shoulder," intimating that their welcome to him was acceptable as the one Texas extended George Bernard Shaw, great English writer, who voiced his acceptance in this language:

"I am afraid that while I might be enjoying the cool breezes on my hotel piazza a Texas mob may treat me to a coat of tar and feathers or entertain me with the burning of a Negro."

Texas, it appears, was a little too far off base for the Prince despite the fact that he would have had the company of the Scotland Yard coupled with the Texas Rangers and the secret service men of Washington. He evidently feared for his safety. Rumors are current that the Prince once remarked when he was being shown the features of this country that it would be his greatest delight to see the "cannibals of Texas.' Our interpretation of this is that he meant the lynchers who burned the Arthur boys in the fair grounds at Paris.

The Prince, according to reports, has made himself a "bad fellow" with the members of the Texas Advertising association who recently returned from a world convention of their craft in London. They implored him on that occasion to visit their home state on his visit here, promising him all the luxury that attends members of the royal family. This failed to impress him, and now he has turned his back on "glorious Texas" and journeyed into Canada where he is to spend a period in monkish retirement.

The Prince has missed something. He was loth to leave the sporting pastimes that America offered, and he missed the greatest event by passing up Texas.

Anti-Lynching Campaign Chief Cause of Lynching Decline, Says Johnson

Cities Decline in Last 8 Years, Before Philadelphia Conference on Inter-Racial Justice.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 1 — James Weldon Johnson Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in an address delivered tonight before the Conference on Inter-Racial Justice, in Social Service Building, asserted that in the past there had been sporadic efforts to abolish lynching, but the "first organized, systematic, persistent and financed effort" to end lynching in America, made during the last eight years by the N. A. A. C. P., was mainly responsible for the sharp decline in the number of lynchings during the last [illegible].

In support of his statement, Mr. Johnson said that the average number of lynchings per year for thirty years prior to 1919 was 107, and that the recent figures were: 1919, 83; 1920, 65; 1921, 64; 1922, 61; 1923, 28; 1924 (thus far), 9.

In the campaign against lynching, said Mr. Johnson, more than $50,000 had been raised and expended by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. First investigators, often at risk of their lives, had obtained the facts concerning lynching, and the statistics were studied and collated, being published in the first and only comprehensive and authentic work on the subject: "Thirty Years of Lynching."

Furthermore, more than 2,500 mass meetings have been held and addressed, millions of pieces of literature distributed, and facts and figures published not only in America, but throughout the civilized world. This campaign, according to Mr. Johnson, "cut at the main root of the lynching evil, the line that the Negro was by nature a rapist and that lynching was meted out solely as punishment for that crime."

This anti-lynching campaign prepared the way for the introduction of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in Congress, where it was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119 and, although the bill was stopped by filibuster in the Senate, the floor of Congress "proved a forum in which to have the question of lynching discussed, a forum which had the ears of the whole country and so the effect upon the national conscience was tremendous." Many of the facts and figures used in debate on the floor of Congress were supplied to Representatives by the N. A. A. C. P.

"When the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was being discussed in Congress," said Mr. Johnson, "and Southern members arose in all their ignorance of the facts to reiterate the old statement that Negroes were lynched for rape and for the protection of white womanhood, the authentic cases of 83 women lynched, with the names, dates and localities given, stopped their mouths. Their chief argument being taken away, they had little left to say."

Mr. Johnson stated that "the Anti-Lynching Bill is still in Congress as House Bill No. 1, and it is still a threat, I firmly believe, that those who hold dear the institutions of our country and who feel this shame and disgrace among the nations of the world, should not rest until a law making lynching a crime punishable by the Federal Government is enacted by Congress."

AN EXCHANGE OF "COURTESIES." There is something in this picture distinctly reminiscent of pic[illegible]ting scenes created on [illegible] half of the Irish Republic in Washington. The picture shows a parade of [illegible] Association on [illegible] the Advancement of Colored People, and directed to draw the attention of Americans attending the Bar Association convention. The placards speak for themselves.

Lynchings—1924
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern)

1610

FALSE REASONING

In a recent issue of the St. Louis Star, an editorial under the caption, "Lynching Record of 1923," argued against the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill on the ground that the record shows a decided decrease in lynchings during 1923.

The decrease, we hold, is the strongest argument in favor of the bill that could be advanced in the absence of the law itself. We reason that the agitation for a Federal law, and the fact that theUnited States House of Representatives passed the Dyer anti-mob law, and the fact that President Harding said he would sign such a bill if passed by both houses of Congress, are the strongest factors in bringing about the decrease in lynchings.

It is a well known fact that the South does not want to give up its popular pastime of lynching. It is also true that the South does not want any interference on the part of the Federal government in any of its affairs. So seeing that a Federal law against lynching is inevitable, if lynching continues as it has in the past, the logical result is decreased lynching if only for a season.

St. Louis Argus

The decrease in lynchings during the past year should be regarded as the fruits of the work of Mr. Dyer and those who are helping in the fight. Those who would see the country rid of this sort of ruthless murder should double their efforts to make lynchings a Federal offense.

1—11—24

We argue that if agitation has cut the record in half, then let every patriotic lover of right and justice do all in his or her power to put over the anti-mob law which is now before the Congress of the Un[illegible]d States.

GEORGIA'S BLOT

Along with the law loving group in the state, The Tribune expressed the hope for a record free from lynching closing the year within the borders of the state. But alas, this hope has been shattered. About a month ago a few lawless white men entered the home of an inoffensive old couple in the southern part of the State, whipped them and shot down the old man who died some hours afterward. Wednesday, another lawless set attacked a chain gang trusty, charged with attempted assault on a small white girl near Cordele. The alleged victim is the daughter of a chain gang boss, under whom the trusty was working. The only direct charge is that the trusty offered to "catch a pigeon" for the girl. The brave (?) mob apprehended the trusty from the hands of legal officers and exalted themselves as being supreme to any law of the land and proceeded to be judge, jury, and executioner by immediately murdering the accused. Did this mob show any respect for law? Was the spirit of Christianity displayed? Was the superiority, of race, other than in bloodthirstiness, shown? These acts reflect upon Georgia, and retards its progress in a material way. Finally the murderers "will reap' what they have sown, even to their unborn children. This is as true as there is night and day.

Savannah Tribune
3-20-24

What Is A Lynching?

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, Ill., April 4.—Since the publication of the report of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, naming the number of lynchings in the United States during the last year and comparing it with previous years, there has been some questioning among Southern white papers as to just what a lynching is. The question seems to have been first asked by the State of Columbia, South Carolina.

4—3—24

The Raleigh News-Observer points out: "In the South when two or more persons conspire together to take the life of a human being it is usually called a lynching, but in the North there is a tendency to call it something else. Unlawful killings of whatever nature ought always to be punished, but there is no use of painting a different picture of the South from that painted in the North for the same or similar occurrences."

Birmingham Reporter

CHARGING CRIMES TO USUAL PERPETRATOR!

Houston Informer 4-26-24

From South Carolina comes the news item that, after a prolonged search by the posses and constabulary forces of one section of that state, a white youth confessed to a series of crimes for which a "tall, black Negro" was being hunted.

What is worse, the chances are that some black man would have been dealt with summarily, at the hands of the exponents of Southern kultur—mobocracy—had one been apprehended that met the description of this white boy who committed the dastardly crime.

This youthful white lad had wielded the ax with deadly effect upon his aunt, and seriously wounded her three children, two of whom are reported in a critical condition, and yet he gave the alarm that a "tall, black Negro" perpetrated the crime and dished out the usual dope that goes with such allegations.

Here, again, is brought home to America, and especially the South, one of the many dangers of mob-law: in that innocent men are often the victims of its hellish and fiendish wrath.

It has often occurred in the South that innocent black men have been arrested, indicted, convicted, incarcerated behind prison walls and quite frequently victims of Judge Lynch's infamous and infernal court, just because it was charged that some "burly, black Negro" committed the crime.

Numerous Southern black men, entirely innocent of any wrong doing or infraction of the laws, have suffered pain and death for crimes and offenses that white men committed.

Take the case of this 14-year-old white youth, who confessed to South Carolina peace officers, that he committed the crime and conjured in his mind the "story" about the "tall, black Negro," resulting in the arrest of three colored men, later released after this white boy's confession.

This youth had been taught, having observed how crimes were charged to colored men and how they always paid the penalty for the same, whether guilty or innocent, that the "black Negro" is a scape-goat in the South and thus he sought to place his dastardly crime upon this racial scape-goat.

Can you imagine a 14-year-old youth turning a veritable savage with an ax and then laying his crimes at the door of the defenseless and unfortunate black race?

The Southern brand of psychology is to associate all crimes, especially if they are heinous, brutal and barbaric, with the "black Negro," and thus white youths at their mothers' knees are taught and led to believe that the black race and criminality are synonymous.

They are taught that black people are low and bestial; that they will commit any kind of fiendish and brutal crime; that they are criminal by nature and a dangerous menace to society.

Consequently, when these white youngsters of Dixie get ready to demonstrate their peculiar "kultur" and show off their "racial superiority," they perpetrate their crime and then attach it to some "black Negro."

The great man hunt then begins and armed posses and reinforced constabulary forces scour the country for miles and miles for the "burly, black brute," while the daily papers incite the mob-spirit of the community by stating that "a lynching is feared when the culprit is captured."

The "wish being father to the thought," it generally happens that the mob does its stuff with the first strange and stray black man it encounters, and then leaves his body dangling from some tree limb or smouldering in a funeral pyre on the public square of some Southern city, happy in the thought that it has upheld law and order and made more secure and sure "white supremacy!"

Until the white South changes its attitude towards and opinion of the black man and teaches and trains its children similarly, we are going to have numerous incidents like the recent one near Columbia, South Carolina, and many black men are going to suffer and pay the penalty for crimes committed by members of other races.

Let us be thankful that this 14-year-old white axman confessed to his terrible crimes before some "tall, black Negro" was apprehended by the armed posse (more dignified term for mob) in the Palmetto state and treated to a dose of the famous Southern pastime!

WASHINGTON CASHES IN $100 BET

That There Was Never A Lynching In Chatham County

About two months ago, Edward Washington, who is in Buenos Aires, South America, with his Lucky Eleven a jazz band, bet a newspaper reporter who had made the assertion that lynching was very general throughout the south, two hundred dollars to one hundred that there never was a lynching in Savannah or in Chatham county. The reporter called the bet and so Mr. Washington, who is a former Savannahian, got busy and wrote to Merritt W. Dixon, sheriff of Chatham county, acquainting him with the wager and asking him whether or not there was ever a necktie party in this county. Sheriff Dixon answered Mr. Washington's question and upon the strength of this answer the latter cashed in the hundred dollar bet.

In a letter to the Tribune received today, Mr. Washington says the reporter paid the bet with a smile and now has a more wholesome opinion of at least one community in the southland. Sheriff Dixon's letter, upon the strength of which Mr. Washington won the bet, is very interesting is here given

Savannah, Ga., July 29, 1924.

Mr. E. W. Washington,
Calle Florida 468
Buenos Aires, S. A.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 5th to hand. Contents carefully noted. I am extremely gratified to note one so far away from home and yet defending his home. We are a law abiding peolpe. Our city and county have never been stained with the unlawful crime of lynching. Our people do not now and never have tolerated the lynching fever. We allow the law to take its legal course.

You win the money. Your friend has gotten a little mixed. There were two men lynched in Liberty county, fifty miles from here, about a year ago, and the dispatches, I presume, went out from Savannah.

Yours respectfully,
Merritt W. Dixon
S. C. C.Ga.

THAT CHARLESTON LYNCHING

The lynching-burning of a Negro youth at Charleston, Missouri, last week, just on the threshold of the convening of the Fifty-third Missouri General Assembly, looks to us like a warning to Governor-Elect Baker, and the legislature, that something must be done to protect the lives of the citizens of this State from mob violence. If the present laws are inadequate to cope with the situation, then it is the duty of the legislature to provide laws with sufficient teeth to bite the lyncher, as well as the common murderer, chicken thief and gun toter. In fact, the law against lynching should be ten times stronger, if possible, because of the nature of the offense against the State. For, every time that mob acts as judge, jury, presecutor and governor, and gets away with it, the State bows to mob rule and the spirit of mob rule gets a firmer hold on the State.

Of course, everybody knows that the reason these outbreaks of lawlessness happen, is because the participants feel assured that nothing will be done to them. The mob feels immune from punishment by the State. It is rather unfortunate that three lynchings have taken place in this State during the four years of Governor Hyde's administration. It is estimated that at least one thousand persons who could have been convicted for their part in these mobs, had the officers of the law done their duty, are at large in mockery of law and order.

This ought not to be possible in a civilized country. We wonder what kind of diseased minds possess the people that rule that have in their hands the responsibility of government.

SHERIFF FAILS TO DO HIS DUTY

According to newspaper reports of the lynching of a Negro youth at Charleston last week, the sheriff following the arrest, failed to do his duty in protecting the prisoner from the mob.

There can be no reasonable doubt as to the truthfulness of these reports of this case. We note that the mob quietly marched to the jail, demanded their victim avowing their intention to lynch him, and that Sheriff B. B. Jackson turned over the prisoner without the least resistance. Not a shot was fired into the mob, nor was there a shot fired to scare the participants. The sheriff failed,—utterly failed to do his duty.

In thinking of the three lynchings that have taken place in this State, during the past four years, we cannot but wonder, with thousands of others in the State, is there nothing that can be done by the State in the way of punishment of those who are responsible for this outrage against law and order. Will this great commonwealth fold its arms and declare itself helpless to cope with this situation? **Law and Order** have broken down, the sheriff is playing the part of "running with the hounds, but hiding with the hare." The local coroner has failed to fix the blame upon anyone. The prosecutor has failed to gather sufficient evidence to indict and convict. Will the State then say it is unable to do anything about the matter and allow five hundred murderers of the State to go scot-free?

In a conspiracy, we can see how it is with some difficulty that the members are identified, but the State has a **Clear Case** against B. B. Jackson, Sheriff of Mississippi County. Jackson failed to do his duty and everybody in the State **Knows It.** There is no technical defense for him. The facts are too bold. Just a plain case of duty failure, that's all.

The sheriff of a county is a State officer. He is responsible not only to the county, but the State. Will the State act when the county fails? If the State fails, we must appeal to the United States. If Uncle Sam says his arms are too short, then we wonder what does our allegiance to the flag, the stars and stripes, mean? What does our citizenship mean? To what source shall we look for protecti

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Negro Press (Southern).

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NO LYNCHING BEE STAGED THIS TIME!

The daily newspapers of Texas carried an item, played up on their front pages, a few days ago about an alleged attack upon a white girl at Fairfield, a little one-horse town in Central Texas, where six or more colored men and boys have been lynched and burned to death within the last two years for alleged attacks and offenses upon white women and girls.

This newspaper "story" ("lie" is a better term) went on to recite the details of the brutal and heinous attack; how the "burly black assailant or assailants" laid in wait for the young lady and then attacked her when she approached them, and her screams and cries frightened them off, etc.

Not being satisfied with a mere recital of these imaginary facts, the article went on to enumerate the numerous lynching fests that had been staged in that community for such an offense, with black boys and men as the unfortunate victims; and even intimated or suggested that a similar fate was awaiting these "brutes" when they were apprehended, and that their arrest was momentarily expected, as bloodhounds were on their trail and the girl felt positive that she could identify her assailants.

A day or two later, hidden on a back page in these daily sheets, appeared a very brief news item to the effect that two white youths had been arrested and a third was implicated in the "assault" and that his arrest was hourly expected.

If a single item or article has appeared since then we have been unable to locate it in the columns of these Texas daily newspapers, who can always "play up" crime alleged at the hands of black people, but who, when they find out that the culprits are not black, endeavor to hide the fact on the market page or in the classified advertising sections. Houston Informer

It will be remembered that the charge was generally made on a previous occasion, when two or three colored youths were lynched at Fairfield for an "alleged attack and outrage" upon a white girl, that the guilty culprits were not black and two or three white youths were arrested and all suspicion pointed towards them; but they were subsequently released, despite the fact that they were carried elsewhere for safe keeping, after the mob had satisfied its lustful appetite and bestial passion by lynching a number of colored boys. 7-19-24

We merely mention this Fairchild incident, because hundreds, yea thousands, of black boys and men have been lynched and burned at the stake in the highly-civilized and Christianized communities of the democratic South, where large numbers of its white inhabitants would rather lynch a defenseless and helpless colored boy, man or woman and vote the "straight democratic ticket" than reside on Hallelujah Avenue in the celestial region, or live in a state of wealth and affluence on this mundane shore.

It is needless to state what would have already happened to these white Fairchild youths, had their skins been dark, or had they been caught before removing the lamp-black from their faces; as most white culprits, when attempting to perpetrate such a stunt in the South, generally darken or blacken their faces, thereby hoping to put their crime at the door of some black youth or man—and they usually get by with it, too! Houston

If more thorough investigations were made when these alleged attacks and assaults are reported, it is possible that quite often no arrest would even be made, to say nothing of a lynching fest or burning bee. Texas.

As black as the picture seems to us at times, we must admit the fact that the South is making some appreciable headway in the suppression of mob-law, as it is perpetrated upon black people; for the 1924 record, up to June 1, shows that only five lynchings occurred in the South during the first six months.

The Informer wishes to congratulate and felicitate the mobocrats and "hellocrats" of fire-eating and fire-employing Fairfield for delaying their mobocratic orgy until Providence had an opportunity to take a hand and expose the real culprits; and since they are members of the "superior" race, this paper feels assured that there will be no domestic disorders nor lynchocratic demonstrations in ferocious and fetid Fairfield! "So mote it be!"

"OLE MISS" QUALIFIES IN LYNCHING LOOP!

In last week's issue of The Informer we complimented several of the Southern states for their poor showing in the 1924 race in the Southern Lynching League, and incidentally expressed surprise that Mississippi and Texas had not qualified for the mobocratic gonfalon for 1924. Houston Informer

But before the editorial was inserted in the paper, a bunch of white men had seized, brutally and fatally beaten a colored man at Marshall, Texas, and before the ink was dry on the paper, a mob near Meridian, Mississippi, had wreaked its hellish and hunnish vengeance upon a black man with rope and bullets, thereby qualifying "Ole Miss" for the lynching league loop for this year.

While the Texas incident may not be classed as a lynching orgy, since the four white men who killed the colored man surrendered to the peace officers and made bond, the Mississippi affair was merely another of the many mobocratic outrages perpetrated upon the black men and women of that and other Dixie commonwealths. 7-26-24

We just knew that Mississippi was not satisfied being outside of the lynching league and this recent act of mob-violence merely confirms our belief.

Some of the mobocratic communities of the South reason that they just must "lynch or burn a 'nigger' or two" during the year, in order to keep in practice and to perpetuate a Southern institution.

Some claim that lynching is mob-murder, but The Informer assumes the position that lynch law is more than mob-murder:

Lynching is organized anarchy and is a domestic menace and internal peril that pales into utter insignificance all the radical doctrines and destructive preachments of the reds and bolsheviki.

Yet in the face of this deadly cancer on our body politic, we find our so-called statesmen more interested in foreign matters than in preserving and perpetuating their own land; for no country is safe nor is its permanency assured as long as the humblest, poorest and lowest citizen is not safe from mob disorders and recurrent outrages at the hands of the teams in the lynching league.

Here's hoping again that mobocracy (the rule of the mob) will decrease and that democracy (the rule of ALL the people) will increase in this reputed "land of the free and home of the brave!"

LYNCHING LEAGUE MAKES POOR SHOWING!

As this editorial is being penned, we have before us the record of the American Lynching League for the season of 1924, and note that the famous American pastime—lynch-law—fell far below its 1923 mark, both in number of victims and the popularity it has previously enjoyed from America's large colony of mobocrats.

Not only did lynching show an appreciable decline during the past year in this country, but the championship was won by a new team during 1924, Florida supplanting Georgia, and Texas being tied for last place in Judge Lynch's circuit.

A few years back Texas and Georgia always fought it out for first place in the Lynching League, with Mississippi running them a close second; but during 1924 the Cracker and Lone Star states relinquished their positions at the head of the percentage column in Judge Lynch's loop and the Everglade entry copped the gonfalon. Houston Informer

With two lynchings each, Georgia and Mississippi tied for second place in the lynching race, while Florida led the field and easily romped home winner of the league's trophy with five mob-fests and lynching orgies.

One Northern state, Illinois, qualified for membership in the Lynching League during 1924, mobocracy claiming one victim in the Prairie State and that occurring in the great metropolis of Chicago. 1-3-25

The other state teams that were in the race are as follows: Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas, with one victim each.

In all, sixteen American citizens fell before the barbaric onslaught and heathenish offensive of the teams in the American Lynching League during the 1924 season, being 17 less than appeased the wrath and fury of the same organization during 1923 and 41 less than the league's victims during the 1922 season.

Many reasons are being assigned for the poor showing of the teams in the American Lynching League during the 1924 season, chief among them being the agitation for a federal anti-lynch law and the activities of the Inter-Racial Commission in several of the Southern states.

Whatever may be the main or contributory cause or causes, this decline in lynching during 1924 should serve to nerve, inspire and awaken the American public conscience against this damnable and diabolical scourge; and all our forces should be united and directed towards the eradication of this monster evil, which is gnawing at the very vitals of our body politic, undermining the foundation of our democratic republic and breeding contempt and disrespect for the basic laws of our common country.

If lynch law has so imbedded itself in the life of America that the municipal, county and state governments and officials can not cope with this hydra-headed monster and the life and person of no citizen is safe from its ravages and depredations, then the federal government will be acting wisely and sanely to take cognizance of this evil and enact and enforce a statute that will divest lynch law of some of its popularity and ban the game as an American pastime and sport.

Mobocratic demonstrations and manifestations are relics of the dark ages and should have no place nor part in a Christianized, civilized country such as ours professes to be; and if the government can not insure the least citizen "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and a fair and impartial trial through orderly processes of the law, when accused or indicted for some offense against society, it will not be long before the very government's life will be in danger and jeopardy.

While somewhat encouraged and heartened by the poor showing of the teams in the American Lynching League during the 1924 season, we must continue to wage a relentless and pitiless fight against this damnable demon until his last citadel has been overthrown, every team in the circuit has been disbanded and every player, spectator, devotee and adherent outlawed.

A BLOT ON THE STATE'S GOOD NAME

Just as Tennesseans who believe in law and order, were in the midst of rejoicing over the fine record that the state has held for the past several years, with reference to the absence of lynchings, the startling news was sent broadcast to the country telling of the action of a hooded mob who took the law into their own hands, and with pointed pistols, walked into Nashville city hospital, took therefrom a wounded, helpless negro boy and proceeded to lynch him without giving him a chance for his life. This deplorable affair was staged right under the shadow of the state capitol and at a time when the attention of the entire citizenship of Davidson county was directed toward the services which have been in progress during the last few weeks by the noted evangelist, Rev. William A. Sunday. 10-18-24

There is no way of determining the innocence or guilt of the accused Negro at this time. It is the perogative of those in sympathy with the lynched Negro to conclude that he was acting in defense of his life when he was wounded by the grocer, in view of the refusal of the friends of the wounded grocer to allow him a trial in a court of justice on the grounds of having staged a hold-up.

The few cowards who staged the lynching in Davidson county have caused the thousands of citizens of Tennessee who believe in law and order, to bow their heads in shame, because of the disgraceful affair. The recent suggestion of an advocate of a federal law to punish lynching referred to the decrease in lynchings in the United States and in connection stated, "so long as there is one lynching in a century, there is need for a law that will make sure the calling into account of the lynchers for their cowardly work."

Making Sentiment Against Lynching

What the number of lynchings this year lacked in volume Nashville, Tennessee, made up in atrocity a few days ago, when a mob entered a hospital in that city, stole a dying fifteen-year old boy from a bed and lynched him in a most horrible manner. The boy had been charged with shooting and wounding a man, who also shot, and mortally wounded him. 12-27-24

The action of this mob, which was without recent precedent for brutality, stirred the citizens of Nashville to instant repudiation of lynch law and deep resentment for the disgrace brought upon the city, which had not witnessed a lynching before in thirty years. The Chamber of Commerce offered a reward of $5,000 for the apprehension and conviction of the mob members, and the community arose as one man, backed up by the press and pulpit, in strong condemnation of the lynchers.

Such reaction to mob violence will ultimately result in its suppression. The identity of mobs cannot remain hidden and members of mobs cannot go unpunished when public sentiment in a communiity is as clearly and unitedly against lynching as has been evidenced by the authorities and citizens of Nashville.

Lynchings—1924.
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern).

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GEORGIA'S SHAME

Is Georgia the most lawless state in the Union. Have all the states purged themseves of the barbarism of lynch-law except Georgia?

Only two lynchings in America in this year of our Lord, and both of them in Georgia—one in Cordele and the other in Woodbury. All law abiding citizens were congratulating the nation for its spotless record until Georgia disgraced us all—two Negroes lynched in one month is Georgia's record, while all the other states present a clean sheet. There is no excuse for mob law in America, there can be no excuse for fifty or more men becoming murderers to avenge the murder of one man. It is not the victim of the mob we are concerned so much about, but the majesty of the law. The loss of a life is not the menace which strikes so deathly at the vitals of our country, but it is the lynching of the law.

Georgia has lost her place as Empire State of the South to North Carolina by reason of her growing spirit of lawlessness, her inadequate educational facilities bad roads and her disregard of the property rights of the citizen body; and cheap politics is at the bottom of it all. Georgia is the home of the cheap political demagogue. Where the people are politically free and economically independent there is no mob law, and lynching never occurs. Capital is not coming into a state where life is unsafe and the laws are inimicible to big business.

Georgia is no longer the Empire State of the South, unless mob violence is the most distinguishing characteristic of this much coveted honor. The bootlegger at once concludes, that if a mob can commit murder and get away with it why can't a man sell a few gallons of booze and make a safe get away? His proposition is a reasonable hypothesis to appeal to the criminal in the man. Under Georgia public opinion, it is a greater crime to bootleg than it is to kill a Negro.

In Crisp County a mob overpowers the law and lynches a Negro accused of attempting an assault on a white child. This Negro was already in the chain gang. He was never identified by the child whom he was alleged to have assaulted. The Negro was a trusty and in the hands of the law. Will the mob be punished? The coroner will empanel a jury, possibly part of the mob will be on the jury, and render the usual verdict, the deceased came to his death at the hands of parties unknown to the jury. The matter will stop there. The governor will offer no reward, the county officers will make no effort to apprehend, and the gang of murderers will run wild to lynch another Negro on the slightest pretext.

In Meriwether County, a mob of brave white men takes a Negro youth, age 14, and fills his body with buck shot to avenge the killing of the town marshall. The truth in neither of these cases will ever be known.

It is unthinkable that fifty brave white men would pounce upon a jail and take a 14 year old boy from the custody of the law, hang him to a tree and riddle his lifeless form with buck shot in day light and nobody able to apprehend the guilty parties. Georgia will never control labor, or secure capital to develop her unlimited resources until the life and the property of the humblest citizen is safe.

Migration will continue to depopulate the farms, our fields lay waste, our factories stand still, our roads remain bad and impassable, our merchants impoverished and our banks break until mob violence is stamped out and every citizen afforded equal educational and political opportunities. Georgia must enforce the law. It must be just as much a crime for a white man to kill a black man as it is for a black man to kill a white man. Murder is murder, it matters not whether the murderer is black or white—and the law must be enforced as such. We have ample law—the law is ample and adequate. It is all in the conditions brought about by the cheap politics that control the state. The mob must go.

You can't enforce the Volstead act so long as you fail to enforce the law against murder.

SOUTH'S CHIEF HANDICAP.

Nature endowed the south with inexhaustible natural resources. No other section of our common country is so richly blessed—yet we are behind in education and every development as compared with other sections. And it is all due to the political and economic short-sightedness of white leadership. Instead of having one policy broad and elastic enough to develop and protect the interest of all the people, the south is wedded to a dual system of betterment. The south has lost much energy and wealth by trying to improve the white man and impress the black man that America is a white man's country, and that the law was made for the protection of the white man and the punishment of the black man. The white man has endeavored to politically oppress the Negro and economically starve him. The white south not intelligent enough to see that it cannot keep a part of the people in ignorance and poverty without injuring all of the people. The south's one object has been to keep the Negro in ignorance and poverty—to keep the ballot out of his hands, and to confine his industrial activities to the most menial employment. The white south in its effort to limit the possibilities to the Negro, has stunted its material growth; dwarfed its statesmanship and sent hundreds of intellectual dwarfs to congress whose chief stock in trade is race hatred. Southern statesmanship is in its dotage. How do southern senators of today compare with the statesmanship of the Browns, Colquitts and Gordons of Georgia; the Pattersons and Calls of Florida; the Vests and Cochrells of Missouri; the Georges and Wathalls of Mississippi, and the Berry's and Garlands of Arkansas?

Seventy-five percent of the men in congress from the sout today were sent there because they hated Negroes and stood for the political and economical undoing of half of their constituents. The south arrested its progress by disfranchising the Negro and arraying race against race through the abominable white primary. The white south does not stand for principle or good government, but for meanness and prejudice. The south has sought to take the ballot from the Negro and to deprive him of such educational advantages as will equip him for good citizenship. The south is poor because it largely lives in ignorance and lawlessness.

If the south would take its place alongside of other sections, it must change its policy from race hatred to the policy of constructiveness which develops its resources without regard to whom it helps. The doors of industry must be open to every man willing to work, and the color of the skin must give away to industrial, economic and political fitness. Man loves his country when it protects him, and hates it when it discriminates against him.

Just so long as the south adheres to the policy of giving the Negro only such employment as a white man will not do, just so long will our resources go undeveloped. Both the door to education and opportunity must be open to every laboring man. The schoolhouse door must stand ajar to all alike—the ballot must be free and unrestricted—the school teacher must receive adequate wages, and the school houses in which our children are taught must be comfortable and spacious, or the south will continue to lose her working classes and her wealth, both in men and material. Ignorance is the basis of lawlessness, and unless a substantial effort is made to educate all the people, and to provide adequate wages and honest employment for every man who is willing to work, the south, and Georgia in particular, will remain the most lawless section of our common country.

SOUTH CAROLINA JOINS HANDS WITH GEORGIA

Atlanta Independent

South Carolina joins Georgia in her lynching record. Up until Monday night, Georgia was the only state in the union that had committed the barbarity of lynching, or in other words, had lynched the majesty of the law. But South Carolina, being in sympathy with her sister state and neighbor, joined Georgia in her program of murder she had initiated for the nation. While all good citizens regret the continuance of mob law in the country, thank God, that the crime is on the decline, and to date, there have only been three lynchings in America. Just three too many. Just three more than was necessary. All confined to the Southland, and in each case, the mob prevailed under conditions entirely unnecessary and without provocation. But there can be no justification of mob law. Mob law is wrong. It makes no difference what crime the marauders hide behind. The law is ample and adequate to satisfactorily and legally punish all crimes. There can be no excuse. The white man is a lyncher. He is the organizer of the mob. He is the performer of the mob. He has the law in his hands. Every court and every piece of judicial machinery in the country is in the hands of the white man. He can arrest, bring to justice and give every criminal a speedy trial. There is no way for a Negro to escape if he is guilty. The white man has the law and he can arrest, convict and punish whether the accused is guilty or not if he elects to do so. Therefore, there can be no excuse for mob violence for the reason that the courts are as completely in his hands, as the mobs. The only explanation for lynching in this country is meanness, treachery and criminality. The men who join in a lynching are more criminal than their victims and every member of a mob in the interest of justice, and for the protection of society should be apprehended, convicted and hanged under the authority of the law. Society is just as much in danger of the mob as

an individual. Our whole social order is threatened by the liberty of the mob. Not only is life in danger, but property is threatened and confiscated. Capitalists are afraid and kept out of the state for the reason, a capitalist is not willing to invest his money where life, property and the pursuits of happiness is threatened and likely to be over run any day by lawlessness. Mob law is without an excuse.

M. E. CHURCH FIGHT OVER ANTI-LYNCH RESOLUTION

Springfield, Mass., May 23.—(By The Associated Negro Press)—One of the most spirited discussions in the course of the long conference of the Methodist Episcopal church being held here came up in connection with the passage of a resolution endorsing the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Proponents of the resolution which was introduced by the Rev. Gammon Morris of Gastoria, North Carolina, plead for its passage on the ground of law enforcement. Opponents held that such legislation was an invasion of state's right. This latter view was most effectively presented by Judge Henry Wade Rogers of the New York East conference, former dean of the state of Connecticutt.

Among those to speak for the resolution were the Revs. A. R. Howard of South Carolina and A. J. Mitchell of Annapolis, Md., Dr. Elmer L. Kidney of the Pittsburg conference joined Judge Wade in the opposition. Discussion was closed by Dr. F. H. Butler, of the Delaware Conference and secretary of the Epworth League work for colored conferences, who called particular attention to the points anent state's rights advanced by Judge Wade. Dr. Butler reminded the conference that in all its action thus far it had hewed close to the line of law enforcement, deploring in various ways the laxity of enforcement seen in the prohibition law and reminded the conference that the failure of the 18th amendment could in large measure be traced to the indifference shown toward the 14th and 15th amendments. He won the conference over to law enforcement, no matter whom it might hurt. The resolution was passed, which means the appointment of a commission of five members to work for the passage of anti-lynching legislation.

LYNCHING PLACARDS STIR ENGLISH CAPITAL

London Law Reform Association Official Says Effect Marked

New York, August 15.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, has received a letter from Percy E. Hurst of the Law Reform Association in London, England, telling of the stir created during the recent visit there of the American Bar Association, by the N. A. A. C. P. Anti-Lynching placards displayed by sandwichmen who paraded up and down the main streets.

So marked was the effect of the posters that an "unseen hand" had the sandwichmen relegated to side streets, writes Mr. Hurst, saying:

"I think it has been a very successful display as it has attracted widespread attention from our own public and from your lawyers, but there has undoubtedly been an unseen hand at work to nullify if possible the efforts that have been made. This has been noticeable from the fact that after the sandwichmen had paraded for several days past the hotels where the lawyers mostly put up, the police made these men stand by in side streets for which act there was no possible excuse. Furthermore, practically all comment has been kept out of the British press as to the demonstration made. This is no doubt due to almost all the editors of the London papers being lawyers, and it is therefore easy to understand the desire to suppress all agitation for strengthening the law and ending its abuses."

The N. A. A. C. P. is still receiving letters as a result of these placards, asking for the facts about lynching.

IS THE "USUAL CRIME" A LIE

Huntingdon Adams, in a letter in the current issue of the Nation, published in New York, raises the question as to whether the excitement relative to the Negro in America and the alleged "usual crime" is not all a lie, one of the most despicable lies of all times.

Mr. Adams was moved to ask the question after reading one of Mr. Herrick's articles on the race problem in the Carribean in which the latter shows an absence of the "usual crime" among Jamaicans and other West Indian groups. Other references are produced by Mr. Adams to prove the truth of Mr. Herrick's statements, such strong authority that Mr. Adams is led to believe that all this talk of Negro attacks on white women, anywhere, is all the bunk, that white people have reasoned themselves into belief of the existence of a practice which dos not exist at all anywhere as a racial tendency. He believes the "usual crime" is a lie.

"THE USUAL CRIME"

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Mr. Robert Herrick's remarks on "the usual crime" in his article on the Race Problem in the Caribbean, published in your issue of June 4, are excellent, but not nearly strong enough, I believe. The following experience shows how different is the picture in the British West Indies from that painted in our Southern states.

Some years ago when I was on a steamer on my way to Jamaica I read "White Capital and Black Labor," by Sir Sydney Olivier (now Lord Olivier, secretary for India in the British cabinet). The following passage attracted my attention:

Now the fact is that in the British West Indies assaults by black or colored men on white women or children are practically altogether unknown. No apprehension of them whatever troubles society. I say this as an administrator familiar with the judicial statistics, as a resident familiar with all parts of Jamaica and all classes of its popultion, as the head of a household of women and girls which have frequented the suburbs of Kingston and lived for weeks and months in remote country districts with neither myself nor any other white man within call. Any resident in Jamaica will tell the same story. A young white woman can walk alone in the hills or to Kingston in daylight or dark, through populous settlements of exclusively black or colored folk without encountering anything but friendly salutation from man or woman. Single ladies may hire a carriage and drive all over the island without trouble or molestation. Offenses against women and children come into the courts: but they are not against white women and children. Whatever may be the cause it is the indisputable fact that Jamaica or any other West Indian island is as safe for white women to go about in, if not safer than any European country with which I am acquainted.

Lord Olivier had been governor of Jamaica for some years. I happened to be seated at table on this steamer next to the Hon. E. St John Branch, who was attorney general for the British West Indies, and I asked him what he thought of Olivier's statement. After thinking it over he replied that so far as he could remember no case of assault or attempted assault of a white woman or girl by a Negro had occurred in the courts during his term of office. If I remember correctly, he told me he had been attorney general for seventeen years.

Consider the population statistics of the Island of Jamaica: The total population (according to the 1911 census) was 831,383, of whom 630,181 were black, 163,201 "colored," and 15,605 white. That is to say, there were just fifty black and colored people to one white person. Many of the judges, all the policemen, and all of the troops except commissioned officers were blacks; and there was no such thing as rape of white women.

The Negroes are of the same races as those imported to our country. The slave ships came in general from the same parts of Africa.

What is the answer?

Are we to believe that because of real or imagined ill treatment here the Negroes have taken to the custom or raping white women, although they do not do it in the West Indies?

Is it reasonable to suppose that if the Negroes do not commit this crime where they greatly outnumber the whites and where there is no danger whatever of being lynched, they would take to it in a country where the whites outnumber them almost everywhere, where all authority is in the hands of the whites, and where if they should commit such a crime they are almost certain to be caught, likely to be killed without even a semblance of a trial, and not improbably under most brutal conditions attended by atrocities such as are seldom found even among savages?

What reliable evidence is there that the assault upon white women by Negroes has ever occurred or been attempted on a scale sufficient so that it might be considered as a likely danger? Certainly the say-so of those who have been implicated in group murders, called lynchings, a say-so which is not given under oath, and not subject to the analysis of cross-examination by legal counsel is not sufficiently convincing.

Can it be that the "usual crime" does not exist and has not existed? (I am speaking, of course, of its existence as a racial tendency, and exclude from consideration sporadic cases of insane degeneracy which occur among all races.) If so, it is one of the most despicable lies of all times.

Huntington Adams.

New York, July 1.

Lynchings- 1924
Discussions.

White Press (Northern).

1588

DUBOIS PA EXPRESS
JULY 22, 1924

Our Disgraceful Lynching Record.
(Pittsburgh Post)

In view of the fact that only last Friday night a Negro prisoner was taken from a Mississippi jal by a crowd of men and lynched, the statistics of mob murders in the United States during the past 39 years, as published in The Post, are timely. This would be a live subject at almost any time, however; for rarely a month goes by that a mob somewhere does not take the law into its own hands, to its own disgrace and the disgrace of the American people.

There is a monastic order which constantly brings to the attention of its members, lest they become indifferen o their spiritual welfare the words, "Remember to die." It might be well if, when we show a disposition to become conceited, we could be reminded of the blot on our escutcheon in the 4,182 lynchings that have occurred in the United States during the past four decades. If the figures in themselves should not make us sufficiently humble, a recital of the manner in which some of the American mobs have executed their victims might prove effective. It is difficult to hold our heads high when we are told of Americans' burning prisoners at the stake and torturing them just as the Indians did. We feel no inclination to boast of our civilization when we learn that eighty-five women — seventeen white and sixty-eight Negroes—were lynched. Nor can our shame be assuaged by the reflection that the victims of mob law were invariably guilty of monstrous crimes. We learn that the crime is usually thought of as the provocation for lynchings was charged in less than one-fourth of the cases, and that homicides were responsible for only two-fifths of the number. Time and again the mobs put prisoners to death for petty offenses.

The only comfort that can be got from the black record is found in thefigures showing a marked decrease in the number of lynchings in late years. The number of persons put to death by mobs last year was the lowest in forty years and was only about one-fourth as high as the annual average for that period.

This is decidedly encouraging. There probably is no other way to stop lynchings than to develop a public sentiment which will frown upon them. This can be done. There is no doubt that the decline in the number of mob murders in recent years has been due to a disposition on the part of the people to disapprove of interference with regular legal processes in dealing with persons accused of crime.

The Nation
11-5-24
New York City

FOR SEVERAL SUCCESSIVE YEARS we have been able to record a drop in the number of lynchings. Before 1919 the average number was 107 a year; since then, according to figures given out by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the figures have been: 1919—83, 1920—65, 1921—64, 1922—61, 1923—28; 1924 (to date)—9. The sharp decline in the last two years is startling. In these days of the flaming cross and the white shroud, when intolerance and violence appear to dominate public thought and action, it is hard to account for so sudden a growth in restraint and order. What is behind it? Is it the threat of federal action, and the vigorous campaign carried on in behalf of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill? Is it the widespread emigration of the Negro from the South and the consequent need of placating those who remain? Is it the effective publicity given each outrage in the Northern press and the Negro papers throughout the country? Probably all these elements have combined to achieve this miracle of improvement, together with the quiet work of a growing number of fine and courageous Southerners, who face the hatred of bigots and Klansmen to help make the South a home of freedom and fair play. Indeed, it is worth noting that the last lynching—in which as often the wrong man suffered—occurred in Chicago.

GREENSBORO N C NEWS
OCTOBER 11, 1924

THE SOUTH AND NORTHERN LYNCHING.

Evidence is already at hand to indicate that many persons in the south are finding a certain degree of satisfaction in the fact that a Chicago mob of 200 men and boys murdered a negro by beating, kicking and trampling him and that it now appears altogether possible that the dead man was not the one wanted by the murderers. On racial madness the south has no love for Chicago anyway, chiefly because the Chicago Tribune has been one of the most outspoken critics of lynching activities this side of the line. The satisfaction may be natural to a low degree of intelligence but it does no more credit to the south than a lynching would do.

The remarkable feature of the Chicago lynching is that only one person lost his life. A racial rampage there generally results in the slaughter of anywhere from a handful to a score of negroes. In other respects the death of William Bell is merely further proof of the perpetual difficulty and danger surrounding any community where members of the white and black races live side by side. The south has known that, of course, for years; if the north does not know it now, it will learn it in time. Recent records show a decrease in lynching in the south, although the figures are far too incomplete to draw any conclusion that the section is ready definitely to turn its back on that form of murder. The gain has been made by an understanding attitude and by the increase in the number of officials who will act promptly in preventing mob action. Governor Morrison's record in the latter respect is especially notable.

But joy in the south because a negro has been torn to pieces in Chicago is evidence not only of low mentality but of barbarism.

NEW ORLEANS LA ITEM
OCTOBER 21, 1924

Mobbery of Negroes

A CHICAGO mob beat a negro to death last week after somebody attacked a white girl. The Chicago police think the mob killed an entirely innocent man—not at all a novel circumstance in such cases. The detail is noted for the benefit of those who think there is a radical difference between Northern folk and Southern.

The mob is a vicious institution anywhere. It deserves the reprobation of all good citizens everywhere. Rage fomented from racial hate leads more easily to mobbery in those susceptible to mob impulses than perhaps from any other source. It makes little or no difference what the races are. You can even stimulate people to mobbery with differences of nationality between members of the same race for the mainspring of the appeal. And people are alike North and South, and the world over. It is sad. But it is true.

WORCESTER MASS TELEGRAM
OCTOBER 12, 1924

If the Chicago mob has really lynched the wrong Negro, it ought not to be downcast. If you don't succeed at first, try again. The mob has as much right to lynch every Negro in Chicago as it has to lynch one Negro.

Lynchings—1924.
Discussions

White Press (Northern).

Columbia S.C.
Record

1589

READYVILLE PA REPUBLICAN
MAY 6 1924

LESS LYNCHING

The reason for the decline of lynching in 1923 will not be easy to discover because it is made up of a variety of ingredients. It may mean a great deal, however, that the total of twenty-eight mob executions during the year is fewer by ten than the number occurring in the next most favorable year for which records have been kept, while it is but 11 per cent. of that for the best year, 1892, when 253 persons were lynched.

Public opinion, by whatever agency it is galvanized into action, is a powerful factor in reform and it has of course controlled in this instance. The Federal Council of Churches, which has been conducting a vigorous campaign for inter-racial co-operation in the Southern States, regards the result as a token that "Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynchings and are becoming aroused to the menace of it." Undoubtedly this has helped, but there also has been strong economic pressure. The migration of Negroes from the South has gravely threatened the farm labor situation and the prevalence of lynching is generally conceded to have been an important cause of the movement. Threat of the passage by Congress of the Dyer anti-lynching bill also was sufficient to cause officials and citizens of many of the states to take stern repressive action.

It has at least been demonstrated that the abuse can be stopped if people can be aroused to its gravity. It may be significant that South Carolina is absent for the first time in recent years from the list of states in which lynching occurred, after having enacted a law under which the widow of the mob victim obtained a judgment against the county which failed to give her husband protection to which he was morally and legally entitled. In this instance the leaders were sufficiently aroused to press the law for passage, while its invocation by an aggrieved plaintiff furnished a vivid object lesson. The justice as well as the practical repressive effect of the measure commends it to other states.

Nine states bore the entire odium of lynching last year—another low record. Thirty-three states were guilty of permitting lynchings in 1892. In this particular, at least, the advocates of law and order have reason to be glad.

Correspondence

Nordic Honor

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: *The Nation* is always interested in tales of oppression or injustice. Here is a tale that includes oppression, injustice, and all the other sins of tyranny.

There was an Armenian student, Mike Mugerdichen, attending the Colorado School of Mines at Golden. He is a naturalized American citizen, a property-holder, and, incidentally, a war veteran and a member of the American Legion. He committed the sin of falling in love with a local girl, a Nordic blonde, the daughter of a local mogul, by name Duval. He wrote a letter to the president of the school, Dr. Alderson, stating that he was going to marry the girl. The storm broke. The irate father assaulted Mugerdichen and pummeled him severely. Alderson advised Mike to withdraw from the school for a few days and when he did so refused to let him reenter or to give him any credit for the semester's work that he had completed. In addition to this persecution by the school, three attempts to murder Mugerdichen have actually been made—once by a mob of students and twice by revolver bullet, sources unknown. Mugerdichen keeps a little store on the Lookout Mountain Road in which he sleeps, and twice this shack was riddled with bullets. The first time he was warned and was not at home when the visitors called, the second time he was wounded slightly in the foot and narrowly escaped with his life. I saw the bullet holes and the bullets that Mike had been able to dig out of the walls. This was attempted murder, for at least three out of the dozen fired passed through the wall at the level of the bed.

These facts are extraordinary, but the attitude taken by the townspeople and students is even more extraordinary. Most of them are indifferent, they say complacently that "they" are just trying to scare Mike. Some commend Duval, saying that it serves "the damn foreigner" right for chasing an American girl. Only a few protest. The town authorities refuse to give Mugerdichen any protection, although he has appealed to both the sheriff and the district attorney. Duval is still a respected citizen and Alderson is not criticized, although he could have prevented the whole trouble had he so wished.

If lynch law is not the law in America, since when has every man been authorized to appoint himself jury, judge, and executioner? If lynch law is the law, as it seems to be, what crime did the man commit? I am one of those "damn foreigners" and such actions are still strange to me, so I would be much obliged to you if you could answer those questions.

Austin, Texas, June 1 WILLIAM F. ELLIS

The Nation

Columbia S.C.
Record

JUL 6 1924

The Lynching Survey.

An interesting survey of lynchings in the United States for a period of the past 39 years has just been taken off the press by the Commission of Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters at Atlanta. It is tragic and grim from every angle, but there is one distinct ray of hope in it, since it shows unmistakably that mob violence of all sorts is on the decrease in all parts of the country.

In the thirty-nine years ending with 1923 American mobs took the lives of 4,128 persons. Of these victims of violence 1,036 were white and 3,146 were negroes. Eighty-five of the number were women, 17 of them white and 68 negroes. Hundreds more not included in the 4, 128 were killed during race riots, most of them being entirely innocent of the crime, or alleged crime, which inspired the uprising.

During this period every State in the union except four has had one or more lynchings, the exceptions being Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Georgia tops the tragic list with a total of 258 lynchings from 1900 to 1922. The commission concludes the survey summing up with the statement that regardless of law, public sentiment controls in the matter of good order as in all other things.

The study shows that many of the victims of mob violence were guilty of nothing, having been put to death as the result of mistaken identity, unfounded suspicion, or common wild mob violence. Many of the victims were lynched for the most trivial offenses, such as 'stealing hogs," "creating disturbances" "failing to turn out of the road," "not knowing his place," "assisting man to escape," and "striking man in an altercation."

Homicides are said to have been the occasion of less than half the lynchings—about two-fifths, to be exact. Another stunning feature of the report is the statement that actual or attempted criminal assault,—"the usual crime," which many people pretend to think of as the sole cause of lynchings—was alleged in less than one-fourth of the cases traced to the lynchings bees.

South Carolina wins a splendid credit mark in the "Black Spots On The Map" survey and all of the area most generally infected is being rapidly civilized. For example. 33 States had one or more lynchings in 1892. Only nine States had one or more in 1923. These States were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia.

Another hopeful sign is the fact that in 1923 forty-six attempted or threatened lynchings were prevented by officers and citizens directly concerned. That the habit of this lawless emotionalism can be curbed is the belief of the commission, and it cites its proof by South Carolina's curb. This State had an average of four lynchings and cut the record to one in 1922, and none in 1923.

A pleasing outlook for law and order and an optimistic indication that South Carolina, in particular,

IS THE 'USUAL CRIME' A LIE?

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Michigan State News 8-2-24

Huntington Adams, in a letter in the current issue of the Nation, published in New York, raises the question as to whether the excitement relative to the Negro in America and the alleged "usual crime" is not all about a lie, one of the most despicable lies of all times.

Mr. Adams was moved to ask the question after reading one of Mr. Herrick's article on the race problem in the Carribean, in which the latter shows an absence of the "usual crime" among the Jamaicans and other West Indian groups. Other references are produced by Mr. Adams to prove the truth of Mr. Herrick's statement, such strong authority that Mr. Adams is led to believe that all this talk of Negroes attacks on white women, anywhere, is all the bunk, that white people have reasoned thmeselves into belief of the existence of a practice which does not exist at all anywhere as a racial tendency. He believes the "usual crime" is a lie.

From ..... OLE ELAND, O., F

JUL 8 - 1924

Lynchings Now Rare

National Disgrace Shows an Encouraging Tendency

AMERICANS of every section and race must be heartily glad that their country's record shows improvement where improvement was much needed—the prevalence of mob murder. Only five lynchings were committed in the United States during the six months ended June 30, it is stated, as compared to fifteen in the same period in 1923, thirty in 1922 and thirty-six in 1921.

The research and record department of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has been keeping the lynching record ever since 1885 and pronounces the 1924 showing to date the best it has ever recorded. Should the next six months prove no worse and the total for the year be no more than ten, lynchings may really be said to be disappearing. For the lowest total for twelve months since 1885 was thirty-eight in 1917.

Gradual diminishing is the story the figures tell. The first total was 184 for 1885. Then the totals ranged between 100 and 200 for many years, going as low as 122 in 1887, 127 in 1890 and 112 in 1895, but also going as high as 190 in 1894, 200 in 1893 and 255 in 1892, the worst year of all. Not until 1902 did the figure go below 100, that year's number of lynchings being ninety-six. It went to 104 in 1903 and to 100 in 1908, but in the last fourteen years it has not touched the 100 mark.

This year's commendable showing cannot be attributed to national law, since southern opposition in the form of a filibuster in the Senate prevented passage of the Dyer anti-lynching act. But the publicity, agitation and education resulting from the effort to pass it may have been of good effect. It may well be hoped the rest of 1924 will not spoil the record and that next year's will prove still better. For the practice of mob murder is about the worst accusation other countries can truthfully make against our country.

Lynchings—1924.
Discussions.

White Press. (Northern).

PORTLAND ORE OREGONIAN
DECEMBER 28, 1924

GEORGIA EDITOR REFUTES STORY OF NEGRO OUTRAGE

Murder of White Farmer and His Wife, Plot Leading to Crime and Lynching of Slayers, Are Reviewed With Supporting Affidavits.

A communication intended to set forth final and complete facts in the controversy over the circumstances of the lynching of a negro woman in the vicinity of Valdosta, Ga., has been received by The Oregonian from C. C. Brantley, editor of the Valdosta Times

The story of the Valdosta affair was brought up in connection with the publication of a letter written by Mrs. E. D. Cannady of the local negro newspaper, following a Portland automobile accident in which a negress figured. There was a denial from the south of the story as presented by Mrs. Cannady. Another writer later sent a letter affirming that the facts as presented were true, and now Mr. Brantley, after investigation, presents the circumstances as he learned them, together with affadavits from many people supporting his position.

VALDOSTA, Ga., Dec. 15.—(To the Editor.)—I wish to thank you sincerely for your courtesy in printing a communication from me some time ago, in which I sought to set aside some alleged facts furnished you in a communication by a Mrs. Cannady in which the statement was made that a negro woman had been hanged up by her heels in this section, and her body ripped open, and that her unborn infant fell to the ground, only to have its life stamped out by one of the mob.

It was my pleasure to visit Portland a few years ago, and I have always looked back upon that visit with a great deal of pleasure. I was struck with the beautiful ferns on the hillsides and the roses and other flowers that were blooming everywhere, and I hated to see a fabrication, so brutal and uncalled for, floating about in the air of such a town. I knew you were an innocent party to the facts, as you had no method of finding out whether they were true or false.

Story Called Fabrication.

I see that a negro, giving his name as Walter White, secretary of the Negro Welfare league, comes to the resue of Mrs. Cannady, and says that he was sent to the section where this lynching took place by a New York paper, and that he found the facts to be as Mrs. Cannady had stated. I presume that she got her alleged facts from White's paper, which is a negro publication. He goes into details and furnishes some other alleged facts which she did not disclose. He pretended to give some of the details of the lynching, and he quoted certain members of the mob on these alleged facts. I want to give him credit for doing something that nobody else has done, and that is, to find out and talk to members of that mob, as he claims to have done. The very idea that a strange negro could talk on such intimate terms with the mob who did this lynching is preposterous.

I visited that section myself last Saturday and saw every white man and negro who lives in that immediate neighborhood. I talked with them about the hanging of Mary Turner (some of them call her "Hattie") and I did not find a single person who had ever heard of the butcher knife episode. There was no denial that she was hanged, but both white and black declared that she was not brutalized in the manner that this negro claimed.

Bottle on Grave for Flowers.

I happened to see the grave of the negro woman in question. The rains and the storms that have beat upon it in the past seven years have left it nothing more than a small indenture upon the earth. There is still upon it a small soda water bottle—not a "liquor bottle"—and I was told by a negro woman in that neighborhood that it was placed there by some negro women and flowers were put in it. It may have been a dead rose bud that White took for a "cigar stub" when he was on his exploring expedition for that New York paper. It might have been easy for him to give the name of the paper so that we might guess whether he was really in search of news or simply propaganda for use by his welfare league.

It is strange that when negroes set out to comment on "outrages" against their race in the south, they always minimize the outrage that was perpetrated by their race and which led to the action of the whites. Mrs. Cannady has stated that the hanging of "Mrs." Mary Turner was because she protested against the hanging of her "innocent husband." There is no evidence that she was ever married to any of the men who were killed. They do not even know her name as "Mary Turner" where this crime occurred, but, as stated above, some of them called her "Hattie." She was the lowest type of negro strumpet, and was about as much entitled to be called "mistress" as a she-bear.

Murder Plot Confessed.

Walter White mentions the fact that these negroes who were hanged were convicts whom Hamp Smith had paid out of jail. He also says that Sidney Johnson, the leader of the group, or the one who shot Hamp Smith through his window, confessed before his death to the shooting. As a matter of fact, Sidney Johnson did not confess anything. He was killed in a duel with policemen in this city, after he had shot Chief of Police Calvin Dampier through the shoulder, and after the face of Patrolman Emory Dampier had been blistered by the blaze from Johnson's double-barrel gun, as the weapon was knocked away from his face by the officer.

The only confessions that were made were by the other negroes who were hanged, and by one who was legally executed in Savannah three years later. It was the confession of a negro named Will Head, who was hanged near Old Troupville, that gave the whole story of the conspiracy, in which Mary Turner and her alleged "husband" were involved. It was at her house that Sidney Johnson, Will Head, Shorty Ford and Hayes Turner formed their plans to kill Hamp Smith and his wife, as well as some other families in that neighborhood.

Smith's Wife Shot.

The plot was carried out by these negroes entering Smith's house and stealing his gun while he and his wife were getting supper for them. They were his trusted employes, working out fines that he had paid for them to keep them off the chain gang. The only criticism I ever heard about Hamp Smith was that he would allow such a bunch of criminals to stay on his place. They were not held in involuntary servitude, but were at liberty to go where they pleased.

The killing of Hamp Smith was bad enough, but when his helpless wife ran from the house and was knocked down by one of these black brutes, one of whom sent a rifle bullet through her chest as she lay prostrate on the ground, the story is revolting. It stirred the blood of the people in that section, and that they went to excess in their eagerness to avenge that brutal murder is not denied.

Woman Inflames Mob.

The mob hanged two men and then went to talk to Mary Turner for the purpose of getting information from her regarding others. They did not intend to kill the woman when they went to see her, but she flew into a rage and uttered such vile curses upon the white women of Brooks county, and especially upon Mrs. Smith, who was then lying between life and death, that the men lost control of themselves. They put her in a vehicle, drove off down to the river swamp, tied a rope around her neck, threw it over a limb of a tree, hauled her up and left her there. Some of the men looked back, and, seeing what a ghastly sight it was, went back and took a rubber coat and tied it about her so that her features would not show.

Then one of the men took his gold scarf pin and pinned the coat about her head, not from respect for her, but for the few people who might pass that lonely road before the county authorities took possession of the body. The report that she was in pregnancy grew out of the condition in which Mrs. Smith was when the outrage was perpetrated against her and there was not a word of truth in the statement regarding the alleged "Mrs." Turner.

One Negro Legally Hanged.

Three years after this incident, a negro named Shorty Ford was captured and carried to Savannah, Ga., where he was held in prison for trial under a change of venue. Hamp Smith's father went to Savannah to identify the negro, but when he saw him he declared he was the wrong man, and the negro was released. Later on, another negro named Shorty Ford was arrested, and was identified by Hamp Smith's father and other people in Valdosta and Brooks county, and he was tried and sentenced to hang.

His lawyers obtained a new trial for him on the ground that they could prove that he was the wrong negro. They undertook to prove it by Shorty Ford's mother and father, who went to Savannah to see him, but when they saw him the father said, "That is Shorty; they called him "Little Shorty" and me "Big Shorty." It was on the testimony of his father that his identity was clearly established in the second trial. After the case had gone the whole gamut of the court the sentence was finally executed. He was the fifth one to pay the penalty for the Hamp Smith murder and the assault upon Mrs. Smith. Two men were hanged, one woman, one was killed in a duel with the police and one was hanged by due process of law in Savannah.

The statement of Walter White that Governor Dorsey had taken a high place against mob violence in Georgia is true. Governor Dorsey married a Valdosta girl and is well known here. His attitude against lynching merely goes to show that Georgia has tried to clean up her own house and not the house of her neighbors. What happened in Brooks county seven years ago is liable to happen in any county in the United States under the same circumstances. I do not deny that there was a reign of lawlessness there then, but I do deny that there was no reason for it.

The difference, however, between a mob in Georgia and mobs that have chased negroes in Pennsylvania, Washington City, O., Chester, Pa., East St. Louis and other parts of the country, is that a Georgia mob goes after some particular individual and gets him, while most of the victims of the Pennsylvania and Ohio mobs have been innocent bystanders. In one instance, a block of buildings was destroyed in Ohio and several persons killed, and the criminal himself escaped.

Only Bad Negroes Molested.

The statement of Walter White that negroes are treated in Georgia about like the Germans treated the Belgians is not true. It is only the bad negroes who are ever molested. In our courts a negro stands as good a chance as a white man for the same offense. Just this week the former tax collector, county warden and deputy collector of an adjoining county were fined $500 each for assaulting a negro who denied certain taxes that they were trying to collect, and all three of these officials lost their jobs besides.

In this county several weeks ago a negro who shot up the negro quarters and killed Policeman Mullis, who went to arrest him, was recommended to the mercy of the court. In another case, a negro woman, who is a notorious bootlegger, was defendant in a case where a white furniture dealer of our city was suing her on a retention of title note for some furniture. The negro insisted that it was not the same furniture, and the jury found for the woman, giving her the benefit of the doubt. No white woman could have gotten a better verdict from a jury.

Mutilation Is Denied.

The story which Mrs. Cannady, published in your columns, and which Walter White said was true, was evidently manufactured for use in the north. As a matter of fact, two negroes came here to get a report of this Brooks county hanging; one from Chicago for the "Defender," and one from New York for the "Crisis." Neither of them made a favorable impression on the negroes here, who claimed that these negroes made promises that were never carried out.

At any rate, I have a statement which I am enclosing you from the Rev. T. A. Lomax, pastor of the First Baptist church, colored, of Valdosta; Elder W. T. Strickland, pastor of the colored Christian church; William Lissimore, district Sunday school superintendent for Georgia; G. Taylor, an upholsterer, and B. Solomon, an undertaker, all of whom declare that they never heard the story of Mary Turner's lynching, as stated by White and Mrs. Cannady, and that they regard it as a fabrication pure and simple, as no such act of brutality could have occurred without its being brought to their notice.

I also have an affidavit from almost every citizen in the neighborhood where this alleged brutality occurred, stating that there was not a word of truth in it. They admit that the woman was hanged in the usual way, but deny that she was hanged by the heels, or that her body was mutilated in any way.

Mob Not Defended.

It is not my purpose to defend a mob for anything it does, but it is my purpose to show that the barbarism, which these negro writers said occurred in this part of the state, never has been practiced. The better element of the negroes and the white people get along remarkably well. They work together in many different lines of business, they meet on the streets and talk business, the whites help them in their schools and churches and in all of their local organizations. They get as much money for education from the general taxes as the white people do, but there is no social association between them. The two races are concurrent, but separate they go, and will always go. Alexander Stevens, one of the greatest of Georgians, once said that "No gentleman would belong to a mob," but he had to confess that "mobs sometimes do things that ought to be done."

The same prejudice which exists against the Chinese in California exists in a greater degree against the negro, where his numerical strength equals that of the whites. That is due to instinct and to biological reasons. The negro is different from the white man; the sun does not blister his back as it does the white man's; and he can sleep standing up like a cow or a horse, which the white man cannot do. In every particular the negro is different from the white man, and nature is calling him back all the time to his original color and original ways.

Agitation Held Harmful.

This is proven by a statement which comes from New York that young Mr. Rhinelander is suing his new wife for a divorce, after a marriage of three or four days, because the newspapers had found out that there were a few drops of negro blood in her veins. I also see that a young negro woman is appealing to White's Negro Welfare league to help her to get in the Young Woman's Christian association in New York, who had "barred" her on account of her color. Wherever the negro has gone in any considerable numbers there springs up against him the same social prejudice that there is in the south, and wherever a brutal, beastly crime is committed by him, there is an element that is just as ready to measure summary punishment to him as there was in Brooks county.

This Negro Welfare League does more harm to both races than it does good by its misrepresentations of conditions in the south, circulated for a purpose in the north. It irritates rather than applies a healing balm. It stirs up strife and hatreds, rather than allays them. It is composed mostly of negroes who want an easy occupation. They are like the sediment which rises when the pot boils and sinks when it is at rest. They are more interested in the "pieces of silver" than they are in the real "welfare," either of the negro or the white man.

I regret having to ask for so much of your space in discussing this subject, but I feel that it is

to present both sides of it. None of us indorses lawlessness, and we try to improve conditions as much as we can. The thousands of people who are coming to this section daily from the north are finding agreeable differences from what they expected.

Some of the best northern men and westerners have spent many days here, and in every case have fallen in line with the southern idea. The negro himself, because of the instinct which he himself feels, prefers the average southern man to any other. They understand each other and get along well, and it is only the criminal element that causes any trouble.

With thanks for your courtesy, I am, Yours very truly,

C. C. BRANTLEY,
Editor Valdosta Times.

The editor's letter was accompanied by two affidavits signed by persons living in Lowndes and Brooks counties, Georgia. The signers included a chief of police, two ministers, a representative, an ex-representative and business men of prominence in the communities. It was emphatically denied in both affidavits that violence other than hanging was inflicted upon Mary Turner. Statements of Walter White were branded "false in every particular."

Lynchings — 1924.
Discussions.

White Press (Northern).

1591

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. JOURNA.
JANUARY 15, 1924

Judge Lynch and the Exodus

The lynching record for the past year shows a distinct improvement, the number of cases having fallen off from fifty-seven to twenty-eight, confined mostly to the Southern States as usual.

Various causes are assigned for this growing disposition to let the law take its course, rather than appeal to the violent judicature of Judge Lynch.

The chief cause, however, is seldom set forth. This, no doubt, is the growing disposition of the Negro to emigrate from those commonwealths where he finds little security. The northward movement of the Negro has given the South to think. It cannot spare him, yet it must do so, unless it treats him better.

If this is, as it seems to us, the chief cause for the recession of lynching in 1923, it suggests strongly that the Negro has the remedy in his own hands. He has but to set his face northward, wherever the community does not esteem him sufficiently to see that he gets the protection of the courts.

Indeed, the South must go farther than that, if it would not see a steadily diminishing Negro population to raise its cotton and do its manual labor. It must provide better schools and better opportunities generally for the black man.

WILLIAMSPORT PA GRIT
JANUARY 6, 1924

MIGRATION CUTS LYNCHING

Fifty Per Cent Decrease in 1923, With Grand Total of Twenty-Six

Migration of colored persons to the North was responsible for a big decrease in lynchings in the South in 1923, it is believed.

Lynchings for the year totaled only 26, half the number for 1922.

SAN FRANCISCO CAL. JOURNAL
MARCH 3, 1924

CAUSE AND EFFECT

Negro lynchings dwindle as South realizes economic value of the colored man.

"Experience is a dear school," said Franklin, "but fools will learn in no other." It would appear from the statistics on lynchings in the South that the Southern negroes do not approve of the custom. Offered an economic opportunity to get away from the danger zone, they accepted it with alacrity. The year 1923 marked two social phenomena: the northerly migration of the negro and the cutting in half of the number of lynchings.

When the colored men left the South in great numbers, the Southerner awakened to the economic asset he was driving away. It is an old axiom that one may catch more flies with sugar than vinegar. The South can not have the immensely valuable cooperation of the negro, and lynch him. If it is true that many of the migrants are drifting back to their old homes and haunts, the new appreciation of the economic value of the negro to the South has something to do with it.

In contrast to the fifty-seven lynchings of 1922, the twenty-eight of 1923 looks encouragnig. Whether this improvement is to be permanent remains to be seen. It is also encouraging to learn that various Southern communities brought to trial fifty-two persons charged with being members of lynching parties. There were also forty-six instances in which lynching parties were balked in their designs. This shows a changed attitude on the part of public officials.

Public opinion has apparently shifted sufficiently in Southern states to give the negro accused of crime a better chance before the law than he has had in many a year. A good bit of credit for this change should be given to the Tuskegee Institute, from which have regularly come detailed statistics on this social evil, carefully analyzed and presented to the press of the country without bitterness.

If the decrease in lynchings for 1924 should prove as large as the decrease of 1923, the whole hideous business will have been wiped out. This is not too much to hope for.

MUNCIE IND PRESS
MARCH 7, 1924

LESS LYNCHING IN THE SOUTH.

Lynchings are becoming fewer in the South, we are told, because public sentiment there at last has become aroused against them. Indeed in the best communities there the willful killing of a negro suspected of crime is no longer good form; the best families absolutely have set their faces against it. It is certain, too, that the rarest thing in the South, nowadays, is to find a newspaper, even in the rural communities, that makes an excuse for lynching or one that does not actually condemn it, whatever the circumstances.

It is possible, too, that the efflux of negroes from the South that causes a stream of blacks constantly to flow northward where wages are better and their lives are safer, may have not a little to do with it, but we are assured that a changing sentiment among the whites is far more responsible for the altered attitude toward the black man.

It may even be possible that the southerners in time will think enough of the national Constitution to permit the negroes to vote as they are entitled to do.

Has the United States looked well to its coast defenses? Some of the rebel Mexican navy is said to be at large.

Battle Creek, Mich. Enquirer-News
Monday, March 17, 1924

LYNCH LAW PASSING.

While the agitation is on in congress for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynch law, the sentiment in the country not only seems to be forming in support of the law, but crystallizing in such a manner that lynchings are becoming less and less as the years go by.

The Detroit Free Press, commenting on what seems to be the trend of the times, has this to say of the betterment of conditions in the America of today:

Estimates of the number of persons lynched in the United States in the last thirty-five years place the figure at about 4,000, and it is virtually certain that lynchings have exceeded an average of 100 a year over that period. It is more than ten years, however, since the high mark was reached although 1915 with 94 lynchings came near the average. Complete statistics for 1923 showing that only 28 lynchings occurred in the United States in that year, are in line with what appears to be a general tendency toward better things.

In any attempt to account for last year's showing the effect of a gradually improving sentiment evidenced by better law and a more sensitive public conscience cannot be left out, but it is plain, too, that some special causes have been at work. The widespread movement of negro labor from those states where lynching is most common is one. That movement has impressed even upon the dullest intellects the fact that the blessing of cheap colored labor cannot be enjoyed forever in any community which does not give the colored man the protection to which he is entitled under the law.

A second cause undoubtedly was the strength of the sentiment which developed behind the Dyer anti-lynching bill. That measure was a notice to all states where lynching was common that if they failed to clean house the general government would be likely to step in and do the cleaning for them. Whether the supreme court would have permitted the Dyer bill to stand if it had been enacted is an open question, but the widespread discussion which it provoked was certainly salutary, and the threat which it contained, may also have been effective.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
MAY 11, 1924

METHODISTS ADOPT RESOLUTIONS UPON NATION'S PROBLEMS

Immigration, Lynching, Prohibition and Cigarettes Debated at General Conference

Springfield, Mass., May 10—The Methodist Episcopal General Conference passed its first milestone today. By voting to omit the "call of the conference" at future sessions the delegates put a stop to the introduction of new business for immediate consideration. The conference will now devote itself to acting upon the various memorials and resolutions reported by the sixteen standing committees.

Prohibition, immigration, lynching and cigarette smoking were among the many matters discussed today. The delegates adopted the following resolutions:

For the admission of all peoples to this country and to citizenship, regardless of race, color or nationality.

For a committee to present to Congress the conference's attitude toward the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. The preamble declared lynching to be against the democracy and the Constitution.

For defeat of the "beer bills" now before Congress; the deportation of aliens twice convicted for prohibition or narcotic violations; a civil service status for prohibition officers, and the creation of a Federal enforcement bureau.

For a message of greeting and sympathy to the widow of President Harding; for further co-operation with the Near East relief, and for preservation of the rights of Pueblo Indians to their hereditary lands in New Mexico.

The National Council of the Congregational Church sent its greetings by its executive secretary, and the Holy Synod of Russia, in a cablegram, gave its fraternal greeting and expressed thanks for the services of the Methodist Church in that country.

This afternoon most of the delegates attended the Methodist Men's Convention, which is holding meetings today and tomorrow in conjunction with the General Conference.

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
MAY 11, 1924

METHODISTS STUDY ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Colored Delegates Have Committee Appointed—Ban Urged on Cigarettes.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., May 10.—Action to stop the sale and use of cigarettes in the United States will be started soon by the Methodist Episcopal Church if a resolution introduced to-day by Dr. Byron S. Robb, of Mitchell, S. D., is adopted by the General Conference, now in session here. The resolution was referred to the committee on temperance, prohibition and public morals of the Church for consideration, and a report will be made to the conference later.

The resolution sponsored by Dr. Robb petitions for legislation in every State in the union to "abate the cigarette nuisance" and protested against the employment on the faculties of any educational institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church of professors who smoke cigarettes.

Colored delegates to the conference succeeded to-day in gaining the adoption of a resolution calling for the appointment of a committee of five to study the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. The Rev. Robert G. Morriss, of Gastonie, North Carolina, introduced the resolution.

The Rev. Dr. David G. Downey, of New York City, took occasion to-day to put at rest rumors that he is slated for elevation to the bishopric and denied that he is a candidate for such a promotion. Dr. Downey has often been referred to as the "master mind" of the General Conference.

The Methodist Men's Convention, one of the most important, if not the most important part of the entire general conference, opened to-day and will last through until to-morrow evening.

Two of the speakers at the opening session of the men's convention were Bishop Francis J. McConnell, of Pittsburg, and Sherwood Eddy, lecturer and world traveler and Y. M. C. A. secretary. In his address, Eddy referred to the Ku Klux Klan, saying that "we must seek a solution in full equality of the racial question rather than through an invisible empire like the Ku Klux Klan." He added that international questions must be settled by a jury and not by battle.

Judge H. W. Rogers, of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals of New York, will be the presiding officer at the session of the men's convention to-morrow, which is expected will be attended by more than 3,000 laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Senator Simeon D. Fess, of Ohio, and Bishop Robert E. Jones, colored, of New Orleans, will speak at the afternoon session.

The chief speakers at the evening session will be Gov. Gifford Pinchot, of Pennsylvania, and Bishop Fred Foster. Gov. Pinchot will tell the men "How to Make America Dry." His address will be broadcast over the radio from station WBZ (337 meters), at 7 o'clock, Eastern standard time.

NEW YORK

KANSAS CITY MO JOURNAL
MAY 15, 1924

Fewer Lynchings in 1923.

The annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People furnishes gratifying evidence of a growing sentiment against lynching. Commenting on the fact that, whereas in 1922 there were sixty-one lynchings, in 1923 there were fewer than half as many—twenty-eight—the report observes:

"Americans now realize that it is not only the lives of Negroes that are concerned, but the honor of America and respect for law and orderly processes."

No profounder truth could have been enunciated than is involved in these few words.

Of the twelve Negroes sentenced to death in connection with the Arkansas peonage riots of 1919, six have been made eligible for parole by the United States supreme court and the other six have been freed by the supreme court of Arkansas. Race clashes occurred last year in California, Indiana, Florida and Oklahoma, and the deportation of Negroes was stopped in Johnstown, Pa., and Spruce Pine, N. C.

Incidental evidence of better relations between the races is noted in connection with the result of the Harvard exclusion controversy and the installation of a Negro staff at the Tuskegee hospital for Negro veterans.

The President Sees the Clowns.

There is something wholesomely American in the spectacle of President Coolidge attending a circus—and enjoying it.

Mob Violence

Two lynching bees in Florida within the last few weeks and the tarring and feathering of four men, in connection with the wrecking of the I. W. W. hall at San Pedro, Los Angeles, remind us that neither the Negro offender nor the active radical can yet be sure of fair treatment throughout the United States.

NEW YORK

ST LOUIS MO TIMES
MAY 17, 1924

Our Lynching Record

Gratifying evidence of a growing sentiment against lynching is furnished in the annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Against the 1922 record of 61 lynchings, the report places the 1923 record with fewer than half as many.

California, Indiana, Florida and Oklahoma reported race clashes in 1923. Deportation of negroes was stopped in Johnstown, Pa., and Spruce Pine, N. C. The report also calls attention to the fact that six of the 12 negroes sentenced to death in connection with the Arkansas peonage riots of 1919 have been made eligible for parole by the United States Supreme Court and the other six have been freed by the Supreme Court of Arkansas.

Commenting on the evidence of better relations between the races and the unusual record made in the reduction of lynching the report observes:

"Americans now realize that it is not only the lives of negroes that is concerned but the honor of America and the respect for law and orderly processes."

Thinking Americans subscribe heartily to that sentiment.

Syracuse Herald
Tuesday, June 10, 1924

THE LYNCH LAW IS BEING REPEALED.

(From Collier's.)

Another reason for continued faith in the soundness of American folks is the gradual decrease in lynchings. In 1921 there were 64, in 1922 there were 61 and in 1923 there were 28. Last year showed a decrease of almost 50 per cent. Thirty-nine States had no lynchings at all.

Some may say, judging by what is going on down at Washington, that we aren't so awfully strong on honesty. But we are acquiring self-control. That's something.

MICHIGAN CITY, IND. DISPATCH
Tuesday, July 15, 1924

LYNCH LAW IN SOUTH ON THE DECLINE

Nashville, Tenn., July 15.—That lynching is gradually being overcome in the south is indicated by a steady reduction in such crimes in Tennessee during the last few years, according to a report on this subject made by James D. Burton, secretary for the commission on interracial cooperation.

Mob justice is shown to be on the decline both as to the number of victims and the area in which such crimes occur, the report sets forth. For a period of twenty-three years, lynchings have been reported in Tennessee. Twelve counties had two-thirds of this total, twenty-four others had one each, and sixty counties had none, says the report.

Tennessee had five lynchings during the last five years, the report added, two in 1922 and none last year.

Lynchings—1924. White Press. (Northern) 1592

LOUISVILLE KY COURIER JRN
JANUARY 2, 1924

92 MEET VIOLENT DEATHS IN YEAR

Drownings and Burns Take Highest Toll of Life In Louisville.

NEGRO CHOKES TO DEATH

Ninety-two persons met violent deaths during 1923, according to records compiled at the Coroner's office. Burns and drownings caused the greater number of the deaths.

The record follows:

DROWNINGS.

April 2—George Hornung, 20 year old, 3130 Portland Avenue, drowned in Ohio River.

May 13—Edward Saier, 48, 662 South Thirty-first Street, lost his life in an attempt to save his son, Edward Saier, Jr., who also was drowned in river.

June 10—Lyle Wittel, 14, of 2529 Griffiths Avenue, drowned in Fontaine Ferry Park swimming pool.

June 17—Robert Cullivan, 17, 2918 Garfield; in river.

June 18—Fannie Ashworth, 65, negro, 1314 Cedar Street; in river.

June 20—Robert Jackson, 12, 2137 Owen Street; in river.

July 1—Charles Williams, 33, 1031 West Market Street; in river.

July 4—Aydrey E. Adams, 20, 2002 Payne Street; in river.

July 4—Embry Quinn, 17, 139 Clifton Avenue; in river.

July 4—Irwin Euchenbrod, 20, 2128 Sycamore Street; in river.

August 2—William Kirkpatrick, 20, negro; in river.

August 12—James Higgens, 12, 1539 Bank Street; in river.

August 3—Charles G. Reuwe, 15, 1058 Bardstown Road, in river.

August 19—Hardwell Collins, 42, negro; in river.

August 20—Unidentified white man; in river.

September 8—Rebenize Blanton, 20, negro, near Central State Hospital for the Insane.

November 28—Robert Thompson, 16, 113 South Twenty-first; in river.

FATAL BURNS.

January 26—Mrs. Fannie Oglesby, 55, 432 South Second Street; clothes caught fire from open grate.

February 16—Eugene Shafer, 48, 3953 Western Parkway; burns suffered from explosion said to have been caused by a moonshine still.

February 20—Charles H. Krauth, 66, 1026 West Market Street; clothes caught fire from gas grate.

February 27—Samuel Morris, Fisherville, Ky.; clothes ignited from stove.

March 1—Sophia Williams, 4, negro; clothes ignited from stove.

May 14—Marie Land, 7 years old; dress caught fire from grate.

April 30—Mary Frances Sinclar, 2, 1052 Tennessee Avenue; lost her life when home burned.

May 3—David Fowler, 1, 313 Stein Court, scalded to death when he fell into tub of boiling water.

May 7—Oscar Samuels, 36, burned to death when his poolroom at 213 South Third Street, was swept by fire.

May 24—Hiram Hall, 44, 2713 Shippen Avenue, burned to death when home caught fire.

July 6—Magdalene Board, 32, negro, 1113 West St. Catherine Street, burned to death when her home was destroyed.

September 17—Edward Garvey, 54 years old, lost his life when the Louisville Restaurant, 210 West Jefferson Street, was swept by fire.

October 12—Lottie West, 4, negro, burned to death at her home.

October 30—William D. Gagel, 60, burned to death when a lamp exploded and set fire to his clothes.

November 21—Mrs. Edith Benton, 48, 1602 Mellwood Avenue, clothing ignited from gas grate.

November 22—James H. Norton, 19 years old, 1707 Tyler Avenue, lost his life when trapped in his burning home.

December 27—Henry Erb, 54, 4108 West Broadway, and John A. Metzger, 50, of 1536 Garland Avenue, burned to death when fire swept the W. J. Hughes & Sons. Co. lumber plant.

VICTIMS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

July 28—Dan Hazelwood, 24, 838 Milton Street.

July 24—Thomas Dovers, 38, negro.

August 7—Corto Preston, 18, 3523 West Walnut Street.

August 11—James Logsdon, 42, 2020 West Broadway.

September 1—Arthur S. Shanner, 62, 2733 West Main Street.

September 26—Charles Davis, 44, 1621 Portland Avenue.

October 15—William Jewell, 23, 1059 Jackson Street.

October 31—Thomas Langford, 20, 2919 Rowan Street.

November 10—Rudolph Block, 32, 1037 South Seventeenth Street.

KILLED BY STREET CARS AND TRAINS.

January 16—Unidentied negro man.

January 28—Lester Lush, 33, 410 South Jackson Street.

February 13—Solomon Blum, 85, Reeser Apartments. W. E. Tanner, 33, 1803 South Third Street. A. H. Hite, 57, St. Matthews.

February 25—Oliver Midgett, 21, of Salvo, N. C.

February 27—Clyde Neel, 26, 506 East Broadway.

February 8—Joseph Walters, 31, First and Chestnut Streets.

March 11—Mrs. Fannie Nalley, Buechel, Ky.

March 15—John R. Ash, Tunnel Hill, Ky.

May 12—James Harris, 23, negro.

May 16—George Seibert, 80, Valley Station.

May 21—H. C. McLaughlin, 38, 931 Mary Street.

May 31—Mrs. Alice Redmon, 46, Valley Station.

June 27—Ludwig Zenner, 44, 316 Cherokee Drive.

June 28—James Murphy, 39, English, Ky.

July 11—Ernest Hert, 17, 266 Cable Street.

July 18—Raymond Weaver, 25, Strawberry, Ky.

July 24—Charles Mettling, 38, 4036 South Fifth Street.

July 25—Joseph Bell, 40, 1318 Cedar Street.

July 28—Louis Boone, 21, New Haven, Ky.

August 12—Aaron Price, 59, Shelbyville.

November 6—Thomas Myrick, 53, 322 North Twenty-seventh Street.

Nineteen persons have died as a result of injuries suffered from falls and five have been killed instantly in falls. Sister Pascaline of the Little Sisters of the Poor and Nathan Salzman, 11, of 415 South Clay Street, died after having been kicked by horses. A flower pot falling from a second story window and striking him on the head caused the death of Albert Briggs, 63, of 710 Fehr Avenue. Bessie Lowry, 45, negro, choked to death when a bone stuck in her throat.

VALDOSTA GA. TIMES
JANUARY 3, 1924

There has been a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States during the past year, due largely to the decrease in the number of crimes which lead to lynchings. Then, "up narth", they call them "riots."

JAN 14 1924

AN EXAGGERATION.

Howard Snyder, writing for the January number of the *North American Review*, says, "Almost any day we can read of some benighted negro peasant (in the South) being hunted down with hounds or shot by a posse of men, or burned at the stake amid the multitudinous cheers of a vast concourse of people."

Unfortunately such things do happen in the South but mob law is not confined to this section and it is not invoked anywhere with anything like the frequency indicated by the writer quoted.

Chicago, East St. Louis, Springfield and other Eastern and Northern cities have had their race riots and attendant cruelties no less than the South. The article in the *North American Review* is decidedly an exaggeration.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JANUARY 27, 1924

TO MOVE THE "LYNCHING BELT"?

(From the Columbia, S. C., State.)

Were the contention of The New York World that migration of Negroes is the best remedy for lynching in the South, what would be the effect of it on lynching in the North?

Only the numerous and highly organized police of great city has prevented attempts to lynch Negroes in New York from being successful. Even in Boston attempts to lynch them are not unheard of.

In Wilmington, Del.; Coatesville, Pa., and in many of the smaller towns and cities of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, Negroes have been killed by mobs, and bloody race riots have occurred. Not in fifty years, if at any time, has so bloody a massacre of Negroes occurred in the South as that of a few years ago in East St. Louis, Ill.; and Tulsa, Okla., where another similar to it was of more recent happening, is a town more Northern than Southern.

Generally speaking, lynching of Negroes in the North has kept pace with their arrival in numbers, except in cities so well policed that a mob is usually defeated and dispersed before it can get into action. In Duluth a mob of five thousand lynched two Negroes.

Besides, Negroes do not settle in Northern villages and rural districts. In few of them would they be tolerated. Nor are they welcomed in small cities. Ask the Mayor of Johnstown, Pa. Inquire of South Bend, Ind. Hardly would The World of New York guarantee safety to Negroes of South Carolina moving in numbers to the villages and farms of up-State New York.

Again speaking generally, Negro safety and Negro segregation are found together in the North in great cities, not elsewhere.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JANUARY 16, 1924

THE CURE FOR LYNCHING.

(From the Columbia, S. C., State.)

We do not concede for a moment the accuracy of The World's analysis when it says "the best remedy for lynching • • • is Negro migration." That is a shallow and unmoral remedy. The best remedy for lynching in the South is the persistent working of the law-abiding, civilization-respecting elements of the two races for the strengthening of public opinion in their respective races against lynch law and against brutal crimes.

It is not impossible that there are communities in the South where the fear of losing labor might influence some farmers to give or heed "wise counsel" when a lynching is threatened, but how utterly unjust of The World to ignore all that has been done by patriotic, justice-loving Southerners for a generation, and to disregard the increasing determination of Sheriffs and other officers of the law to defend their prisoners, by attributing the decrease in lynching to a wholly selfish cause!

South Carolina, for one, repudiates the suggestion and cites the record to demonstrate its falsity.

FROM

Times
Watertown N Y
DEC 7 1923

A DECREASE IN LYNCHING.

Records compiled up to a few days ago show that there has been a gratifying decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year that is drawing to a close. Up to the time that the records were compiled there were but 26 lynchings in the country, the smallest number since 1889. As usual, most of the victims were Negroes. The peak was reached in 1892 when 208 persons were put to death by mobs. With the exception of this year it was never under 50 until 1917, when 38 were lynched. In 1918 there were 64; in 1919, 83; in 1920, 61; in 1921, 64 and in 1922, 61.

That is exactly 26 more than there should be. It is useless to defend the actions of those who take it upon themselves to inflict punishment without due process of law. It makes no difference whether it be a masked mob or an individual who takes life to redress some real or fancied wrong. Nevertheless the improvement is encouraging and it may foreshadow a changing sentiment in the South where these crimes are most numerous.

The South, or at least some portions of it, has defended the institution of lynching on the ground that it was a protection to women. Two years ago a special committee of women appealed to the men to stop this brutal practice and declared that there was no "crime more dangerous than that which strikes at the root of, and undermines constituted authority; substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and deprives society of a sense of protection against barbarism." The women of the South prefer to be protected by due process of law than to be offered this fancied protection which strikes at the law.

The decrease in the practice does not render less imperative the need of a federal anti-lynching law. The opponents of the measure say that it is an invasion of state rights. If the states did what they should do there would be no need of a federal measure. The federal constitution guarantees the right of a trial by jury. If states do not extend this guarantee, it is time for the federal government to act.

IN THE TWENTY-NINE YEARS from 1889 to 1918 3,224 lynchings—an average of 111 each year—were officially recorded in the United States. In 1919 the number had shrunk to 83, in 1920 to 65, in 1922 to 52, and in 1923 there were only 28 instances of this particular form of primitive brutality. An unprejudiced judge would hardly call twenty-eight lynchings a record to be proud of, but it does mark a steady decline in the activities of our own American anarchists. If the South is undergoing a change of heart the reasons are perhaps not far to seek: the migration of the Negroes to other regions is one; the publicity which the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill has received is indubitably another. Since 1919 the bill has twice been reported favorably in the House, and in 1922 it passed the House by a vote of 230 to 119. Its rejection by the Senate was chiefly due to a Southern filibuster. Senator Borah and others doubted its constitutionality, though the bulk of competent legal opinion seems to hold otherwise. There will be ample time and opportunity to determine this question after the bill has been passed; and meanwhile the advertising which the crime of lynching receives from the able campaign of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in behalf of the bill can only result in a more widespread disgust with the practice.

SPRING. MASS. EVE. UNION
MAY 19 1924

Lynchings

In 1922 there were 61 lynchings in the United States. In 1923 there were 28. The sharp decline in the number of these indefensible assaults may justly be considered a cause for rejoicing by all who have greater respect for orderly processes of law than for the brand of justice administered by bloodthirsty mobs. If the bettered conditions which the decline seems to reflect are to be permanent, and if they are to continue to improve, it may be said that enlightened tolerance, not to say decency, is on the upgrade in the more backward parts of the United States. But while a certain optimism is justifiable it would be wise to consider also that prior to 1923 there have never been less than 48 lynchings in a single year; that in one year, 1892, there were as many as 226, and that, while last year's record is relatively good, it nevertheless can be described by no weaker adjective than "disgraceful."

In the annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, recently made public, lynchings are treated from a variety of angles. In the summary by States there is to be found the information that in Georgia there were four lynchings, in Mississippi five, including one woman, and in Florida seven. These figures take on a significance that is somewhat disastrous to easy optimism when it is recalled that, according to statistics compiled by the Department of Labor, in one year of Northern migration of Negroes, Georgia lost 120,000 of her colored population, Mississippi 82,600, and Florida 90,000. Apparently in the States most given to the practise of these atrocities the Negroes are solving their own problem by leaving. Apparently, too, the general improvement may be more accurately attributed to the Northern migration than to the spread of tolerance and enlightenment, though we may hope that the last two factors have also played a not inconsiderable part.

To awaken ourselves further to the flagrancy of these attacks we may reflect on the fact that in a year there were actually two cases of Negroes who were burned to death. In one case a colored physician, because of participating in two automobile accidents, in which there were apparently no fatalities, was placed in jail and burned to death after having his hands and feet cut off. In another case a Negro, accused by a mob of having murderously attacked a white woman, was burned at the stake. Furthermore, eleven people were shot, and eleven were hanged, while three met death in an unknown manner. One man was beaten to death.

Were many of these lynchers promptly haled before a bar of justice, found guilty and given stern sentences? The association's report states simply: "There have been no convictions of members of lynching mobs."

NEW YORK CITY PUS
MAY 19, 1924

EVEN MORE STRIKING than the decrease in the number of lynchings is the increase in the number of instances in which lynchings have been prevented by the determined attitude of officials. There were at least seven such instances last year as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Of these seven, one was in Georgia, one in Florida, one in Michigan, one in Minnesota, one in Pennsylvania and two in Illinois. The attack by the mob in Georgia was enough to daunt any but the most resolute official. There were a thousand persons in the crowd that attempted to storm the jail. The sheriff held his ground until the arrival of State troops with machine guns. The name of this courageous officer is Merritt W. Dixon. He is an example of a man who knows his duty and is not afraid to do it.

Lynchings-1924.
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern).

1593

Jim Denson—A Fragment of History

I TOOK up the Macon *News* one winter afternoon from the steps where the newsboy had hurled it, and read on the front page an account of the bringing of a Negro boy named Jim Denson on the previous day from Wilkinson County to Bibb County to save him from a probable lynching. He had just been convicted, in his home county, of the rape of a white woman seventy years old. He was to be taken back there and hanged on the following Friday.

The feature in this story that had evidently most impressed the reporter was that the nephews of the injured woman had protected Denson from the mob, and had stood throughout the trial as the firm friends of law and order. And this impressed me, too; but I was even more impressed by another feature of the story, namely, that no defense whatever had been made for the prisoner. (It goes without saying, of course, that he had not been confronted in court with his alleged victim.) The judge had indeed appointed a lawyer to defend him, since he was without either friends or funds; but this lawyer had contented himself with saying that the defense had nothing to say.

So much for the Macon paper's account. I was going to the jail on the following day with some pie and oranges for the prisoners, many of whom I knew quite well. I visited the baker's on Cotton Avenue, and went to the jail with my basket of lemon and apple pies. The warden, or jailer, as he is called, let me in with his usual friendly greeting, and I walked along the narrow corridors in front of the cages chatting with my friends of both colors as they chose the pie they preferred and their favorite magazine from my armful of second-hand ones, or asked for a stamped envelope or postal card. There were in the Bibb County jail that winter a number of white men accused of murder, awaiting trial, or having been convicted and sentenced for life, or less, awaiting transportation to the State farm; or else either hoping for a new trial, or awaiting it when it had been awarded them. None of these men, most of whom had shot some person after a quarrel, was under sentence of death; the hanging machine, which I had been shown on my first visit to the jail, was not overshadowing my heart as I talked to them. There were also one or two Negroes in the jail who had been convicted of murdering other Negroes, and these also had been sentenced for life. Jim Denson, accordingly, was the only person in the jail under sentence of death; and I thought he would be, perhaps, in a cell apart.

But when, upon leaving, I asked the warden if I could see him, the warden answered: "Why, he's right in there with the other boys—you've walked right past him, and given him pie."

"Oh! Can I go back, then, and speak to him?"

"Why, sure. He's going to be hung Friday."

I was let in again. I walked along the front of the colored men's cage, on the lowest level, and said: "Which is Jim Denson?"

"Over there, ma'am."

"Are you Jim Denson?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"Oh! How old are you?"

'Eighteen."

"Who belongs to you?"

"I've got a father living."

"What church do you belong to?"

"I don't belong to no church."

"Can you read?"

"No, ma'am. Never been to no school."

I asked him to tell me about his trial.

"They voted to hang me Friday."

"Did you speak in court?"

"No, ma'am."

"Why didn't you?"

"Nobody done told me to."

"Jim, what made them arrest you?"

"I don't know. They just took me."

Jim Denson looked like a stone. He spoke without modulation. If a stone could be imagined speaking, he spoke like a stone.

"When they carried me over here," he volunteered, "some of them done follow me with a coffin."

"Don't you want a minister to come and see you? A colored minister?"

"Yeass'm. I wishes I could see my father."

"Where does he live? I'll write and ask him to come."

"I wishes he would."

I went to see a Negro clergyman the next day—a stranger to me until that time. He said: "Yes, I know of Denson's case. I think probably a lawyer will be retained for him."

"Are you afraid," I asked, trembling, "that if any attempt is made to defend him, it will rouse a mob, and he will be taken out and . . . burned? Is it kinder to let him be mercifully hanged as soon as possible, whether he is guilty or not, for fear . . .?"

"No, no. I think you exaggerate that danger," he replied.

"I hope I do!" I cried.

"I think you do," he repeated steadily. "But of course it exists."

There was a modest sum raised, among people all strangers to this friendless boy, for which a famous lawyer undertook his case. When I went to the jail with oranges and doughnuts on the following Saturday, Jim Denson was still there.

"I'm glad you have a lawyer," I said. "I hope you can prove to everybody that you didn't do it."

"I hopes so," said the young stone face before me. "I wishes I could see my father."

"Oh—hasn't he come to see you? I wrote to him."

"No, ma'am. I wishes he would."

This wish, never gratified by so much as a message, was the only one Jim Denson ever expressed twice, in his talk or letters to me. One other wish he did express once—a wish for a pair of shoes.

"There is," he dictated to one of the ever-shifting fellow-prisoners who wrote his letters to me, "there is some wealthy boys in here, who has offered me their shoes. but my feet is too big. I wish, ma'am, you could send me some."

His case was slowly carried up, from court to court The summer came on, and I went home to Vermont. The autumn passed, and Jim Denson was still saying, in the ever-changing handwriting of one after another of his fellow-prisoners: "I hopes you are in good health, as I am. I am trusting in the Lord to see me through. My case is not decided yet. Thank you, ma'am, for the ten cents you done inclose me for ice cream."

The second winter passed, and his application for a new trial was steadily refused by every authority having jurisdiction. One of his white fellow-prisoners, a man I knew well, who had shot and killed his neighbor in a boundary-and-trespass quarrel, had by this time had three trials and was out on parole; this left Jim Denson his successor as the inmate then longest in the jail. "There is none of the boys here that remembers you," he wrote. "There was one here when your letter came, and I done remembered you to him as you said to. He went to the chain gang this week. My case is not decided yet. I am trusting the Lord as well as I can. The captain" (so the Negroes usually call the warden) "is kind to me, and thank you, ma'am, for the dime you done send me for pie. My health is good."

His health was good! When I had lived in Macon, the sheriff's rule had been never to allow any of the prisoners to step out for a single instant into the fresh air. Once I had seen some prisoners in the narrow yard, lounging along the whitewashed wall, gazing at the coal-heap, talking. They were federal prisoners, moonshiners; for the United States allowed its charges a little air every day.

The second summer passed, and in reply to an inquiry Jim Denson's lawyer wrote to me: "If you can help when the case goes to Washington, I will let you know."

The autumn passed, the winter came on, and Jim Denson began his third year in the Bibb County jail.

"Your letters are a comfort, ma'am," he wrote. "I wishes I could see my father, or hear from him. I has written him a number of letters, but gets no reply. The Lord will see me through my trouble. I am going to be baptized."

Presently he sent me a clipping. The Supreme Court had refused him a new trial. There was now no way in which this boy, who had been sentenced to death without a word of defense being spoken for him, could ever have a

word of defense spoken.

"My lawyer say please, ma'am, write to the Governor and Prison Board of Georgia. Captain Tom is good and kind to me. He say he will have me some better clothes when they carry me back to Wilkinson County to sentence me over again. I have been baptized."

In this next letter he inclosed a long clipping from the Macon *Telegraph*. It was headed:

DENSON RECAPTURED AND BROUGHT TO THIS JAIL
NEGRO YOUTH IS CAUGHT BY DOGS NEAR IRWINTON
EXCITING CHASE IS HELD
MAKES FRIENDS WITH DOGS

Two or three dozen white men, said to have come from the neighborhood of Toombsboro, Denson's home, had besieged the county jail at Irwinton as soon as Jim Denson was taken back there after being sentenced to die on the 16th of June. Sheriff Player stood them off for an hour, the *Telegraph* said, and indeed only yielded when he fell, wounded in the foot. They then swarmed into the jail and took the prisoner. "They tied a rope around my neck," Denson said to the *Telegraph* reporter. "They put me in the car, the second to the last one in the line. It was a two-seated Ford, and Mr. Brown, dressed in white pants, had hold of the rope. . . . I kept smelling liquor. . . . The rope around my neck was tight . . . I felt the knot with my hand. . . . It was a slip knot."

He slipped it off, and lifting up his feet, shot himself feet first over the side of the car. He struck on his feet, and was flung on his head in a ditch. The bullets from the car went wide. This was on Monday, the 22d of May.

All that night and the next day there was a posse of deputized sheriffs hunting him, with a son-in-law of the woman he was accused of assaulting among them. All that Tuesday Jim Denson was attempting to reach the sheriff of Wilkinson County, or else the Bibb County authorities, in a hope to save his life by surrendering to them. He dared not try to surrender to anyone else, for once when he had attempted it the farmer whom he had approached had shot at him, and he had fled on all fours to cover again.

The posse, torn and panting, followed three bloodhounds which had found the boy's trail. But when the hounds came up with him, he made friends with two of them, and had them following him in friendly fashion when the barking of the third dog, which he could not tame, led the posse up.

When he was manacled once more to the sheriff, Jim Denson was glad. In this green world, in the beginning of life, this young son of a golden-hearted race was glad to think that his white fellow-Americans, who had never sent him to school, who had condemned him at seventeen years of age to die after asking him to waive his legal rights to plead for his life, and who had steadily refused for three years to give him any possible chance to prove his innocence in court, would now lock him up again in a cage.

As the party came into Irwinton, the reporter said, a crowd came out to meet them. The sporting spirit of the master race seemed to have been aroused, and they began a movement at once to request clemency from the Governor. As they passed the gallows which stood in the rear of the Wilkinson County jail, Jim Denson said to the reporter: "Boss, you guess I'll ever hang?"

The crowd shouted, "No!"

It seemed as if there was a little hope, and yet, when we remembered the two attempts to lynch him, it scarcely seemed possible that Governor Hardwick would do more than grant a reprieve to reconsider, and then "let the law take its course." A commutation of sentence would cause a great deal of anger, and editorials would point out how this very commutation would prove an encouragement to lynching; and read in quarters where moonshine was plenty, these editorials would be enough to keep the old sport alive. And though people, in the first divine enjoyment of letting themselves be human, honestly and even warmly desire to befriend prisoners, those of us who have ever tried to mobilize their emotion know well how soon the undertow of caution runs back through it. They feel the "risk" of setting their names to a petition for mercy, and are not sharply aware of the risk they take in refusing to do so. If a man is accused of a horrifying-enough crime, people tend to think he must be guilty.

On the 14th of June, two years ago, I sent a night letter to Jim Denson, hoping against hope. On the 15th, I suppose, he was taken back to Irwinton to be hanged. On the 16th he was hanged.

Lynchings—1924.
Discussions.

White Press (Northern).

1606

READING PA. TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 13, 1924

ANTI-LYNCHING SENTIMENT

Only thirty years ago in this country public opinion apparently tolerated lynchings, and 200 a year were not uncommon. Slowly the number declined, until last year there were only twenty-eight. In the first six months of 1924 only five lynchings were reported.

The gradual decline of this evil is very important. Partly it is attributed to better inter-racial feeling. The work of churches and inter-racial commissions in sections where lynchings have been common has helped tremendously to create a little more harmony and also greater respect for law.

The most hopeful element in the case, however, is that public sentiment is increasingly opposed to lynching and that public sentiment, rather than anti-lynching laws, is accomplishing the desired end. When the public recognizes an evil squarely and takes a positive stand against it, that evil is bound to fall. And in the same way, if only it could be generally realized, when public sentiment recognizes a good cause and takes a definite stand for it, that cause is bound to succeed.

NEW YORK CITY POST
DECEMBER 5, 1924

CHURCHES SEE 1926 FREE OF LYNCHINGS

Federal Council Commission Hopes Decrease in Mob Murders Means End of Such Violence Soon

FIGHTING FOR RACIAL PEACE

By Associated Press

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 5.—Such progress has been made in the fight against lynchings in America that the churches are working with "full expectation" of keeping the year 1926 free from them, the commission on church and race relations reported to the fifth quadrennial meeting of the Federal Council of Churches here today.

Up to November 1 of this year there had been thirteen lynchings, a drop of 50 per cent compared with the same period for 1923, the report said. Last year twenty-eight lynchings showed a decrease of more than 50 per cent compared with 1922, when there were fifty-seven "mob murders," according to the commission.

In seventeen States, committees or commissions have been formed since the council commission was organized three years ago, it was stated. Those commissions, the report continued, were principally in the Northern States, "where the influx of the negro is causing a growing problem."

The commission said racial peace was dependent upon racial attitudes and feelings. "Our commission has striven strenuously to find practical methods of arousing friendly feelings and attitudes and removing the attitudes of fear and prejudice," it stated.

As a result of those efforts, it continued racial relations Sunday was inaugurated. On that occasion in 1924, racial exercises were held in many of the churches with white and colored pastors exchanging pulpits in several cities.

Racial Relations Sunday will be observed February 8 next year, it was announced.

"The most outstanding achievement is the fact that the organized Protestant churches of America have assumed seriously and aggressively the task of marshaling the forces of conscience, intelligence and conviction to attack the evils of this situation and to press Christian ideals of brotherhood upon public opinion and inter-racial contacts in America," the commission declared.

Among the cities in which inter-racial commissions have been appointed are Brooklyn, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, Gary, Hartford, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Toledo, Wichita, Youngstown, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Minneapolis.

BOSTON MASS. POST
NOVEMBER 23, 1924

A DROP IN LYNCHINGS

The historian Buckle, living in a time when statistical data were not nearly so comprehensive as they are now, maintained that by proper co-ordination of such data we could almost write our histories in advance.

He set forth rather convincingly that despite the general belief that marriages were made in heaven they were really made in the corn market. That is, his compilation of figures over a long period of years showed that the number of marriages in England fluctuated in very close relation with the price of corn, high prices causing a sharp falling off in marriages, while low prices brought the couples to the altar in bunches.

So, too, he showed that the number of murders and suicides was apparently determined largely by economic changes. There was, however, one vital figure, that pertaining to lynchings, of which he had no record, for the reason that lynching in England is almost unknown.

Here in America, unfortunately, we have such a volume of lynchings that the statistics find a place in the records. Just now the trend is distinctly down, from 86 in 1919 to 65 in 1920, to 64 in 1921, to 61 in 1922 and then to a big drop of only 28 in 1923.

Perhaps some statistical genius may be able to explain the falling off in lynchings.

ATLANTIC CITY N. J. REVIEW
OCTOBER 11, 1924

LYNCHED WRONG MAN

Newspapers of the country have been carrying stories about a street lynching in Chicago following the insulting of a young white girl. These sensational items have been followed by others which indicate that an innocent man was the victim of mob violence. And, while the deplorable incident occurred in Chicago, it has had its counterpart in every section of this country where mob violence and "Judge Lynch" are allowed to hold sway. Regardless of whether the right or the wrong man was sent before the Creator in advance of his time, the point is that every effort should be made in every settled place in our land to discourage the practice of assuming the powers of court and jury. Mob violence is one of the black marks upon our record. It is a peculiarly American institution to lynch a supposed perpetrator of crime. If we heard of Americans shot or beaten to death in European cities or in Asia, we grow warm with indignation and insist upon the despatch of a curt note forthwith to the government where the offence occurs and demand adequate compensation for the family of the victim, beside an apology to the U. S. Government for the affront to one of its citizens. Yet we sit almost unmoved and read of lynching bees and take no action to prevent a recurrence of such lamentable incidents. It is due to a lack of respect for law. It is time that law enforcement was preached from every pulpit and advocated from the rostrum of every meeting of civic organizations and those lodges and associations which vaunt their Americanism. It is un-American to take the law into one's hands.

Lynchings- 1924.
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

1607

NEW YORK

CLYPUS O FORUM
FEBRUARY 22, 1924

THE DECREASE IN ~~LYNCHINGS~~.

It is encouraging to note the decrease in lynchings in the United States during the past few years. It is getting to be less of a pastime each year. And if the decrease continues, there will be no necessity for such a law as the Dyer anti-lynching law. From 1869 to 1918, there was an average of 111 lynchings a year in the country. In 1919, there were 83, in 1920 there were 65, in 1921 there were 52, and in 1922 there were 28.

This looks as if the people are getting a higher morality with reference to this form of brutality. If the decrease continues, lynching will become as obsolete as dueling. Undoubtedly the agitation against this form of lawlessness is having its effect. It may be that the Dyer anti-lynching bill has had its effect already, and that it may not be necessary to enact it into law. If so, it will be a happy conclusion to the whole matter, since force measures and coercive laws are always humiliating, especially if they appear to be aimed at a certain class among our population or at a certain section of the country.

There is no possible justification for lynching under any circumstances. A state or a community which cannot be governed by law has reverted to barbarism, and deserves the kind of violence which lynching represents. There has been, however, this explanation for lynching. The law's delay and the innumerable technicalities which have been resorted to have often outraged the sense of justice of many of our people, and some who would never think of taking the law into their own hands have at least a secret sympathy with the drastic acts of lynchers when outraged justice calls for vindication.

The dignity and the sanctity of law needs to be respected quite as much by those who are charged with its enforcement as those who violate it. The record of the deportation raids of 1920 under Attorney General Palmer, recently carefully

summed up by Louis Post, then Assistant Secretary of Labor, in a printed volume, was a defiance of law and a contempt for constitutional rights on the part of the government officials which is quite as bad as the offense of individuals who take the law into their own hands. In some respects it is worse since the government exists to see that justice is always done.

However, it is gratifying to see that lynching is on the decrease. It is evidence either of a better functioning of law or a greater respect for law. Either of these is a good sign; both are necessary for the stability of a democratic form of government.

SPRINGFIELD MASS EVE UNION
MARCH 22, 1924

Lynchings in 1923

It is probable that we in the United States are taunted with no shortcoming so frequently as with the lamentable prevalence of lynchings. It is a taunt for which we have no strong retort, though we have numbers of more or less plausible explanations. Truth is, we are convinced that lynching is one of the most evil phenomena in current American life. As a people we are ashamed of it and of all the conditions which its existence implies. It appears that at last we have become aroused to the necessity of putting an immediate stop to this practise, for of recent years many campaigns to effect this end either directly or indirectly have been put in progress and remedial steps of all sorts have been deliberated besides those that have actually been taken.

Evidently these campaigns have begun to bear good fruit for it is reported that this year lynchings have occurred in but nine States and that there have been but 28 victims. To be sure, this is hardly a record over which we may grow enthusiastic, but, compared with those of previous years, it represents a decided improvement. It is the lowest record of any year for which accurate figures are available, the next lowest being that of the year 1917, in which the total of lynchings throughout the country was no less than 38. That conditions have improved materially may be seen further by reference to the year 1892, when there were 253 lynchings in 33 States. It is interesting to note, incidentally, that there are but four States without records of one or more lynchings and that these four are in New England—New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Massachusetts.

It is debatable what causes have been most influential in bringing about this betterment, but it is safe to say, probably, that the migration of Negroes northward, which has alarmed the whole country and especially the South, has had more to do with it than any other single factor. With the Negro migration there has sprung up an ever-growing conviction that the South will be in a bad way if something is not done to check this northward trend, and the further conviction that one of the most salient causes of the migration has been the indefensible lynching bee.

As additional causes of the improvement there may be stated the severe antilynching laws that have been passed in several States, the threatening antilynching bills that have been introduced in Congress, and the broad educational campaigns that have undoubtedly resulted in a somewhat enlightened public opinion. Needless to say the war against lynching has only begun. Much more remains to be done before this practise has been completely abolished and nothing should be left undone that will aid in hastening its end.

SCHENECTADY N Y STAR
MARCH 17, 1924

Fewer Lynchings

CONSIDERABLE ground for optimism exists in the fact that only twenty-eight lynchings occurred in the United States last year.

To be sure, that is twenty-eight too many; but it at least represents progress in that it is the smallest number of these mob murders ever recorded. The next best record was in nineteen seventeen, when thirty-eight lynchings occurred. The highest number recorded in a single year occurred in eighteen ninety-two when two hundred fifty-three persons lost their lives by violence at the hands of passion-inflamed mobs.

It is a contradiction of terms to say that lynching is permitted at all in a free country where all men are supposed to have been created equal, where the government guarantees to every man the right of trial. So long as a single mob destroys a single human life, so long as one person is summarily executed without trial, without evidence, without a chance to present a defense, without any of those things that make free government, Americans may not point clean fingers at massacres in Armenia and Russia.

The diminution in lynchings we take as direct evidence of opposition to mob rule in all its features. We have experienced within two years a return to mob rule in certain sections. Sometimes the mob has been cloaked; sometimes it has not. The result has been the same. There is room here for but one sort of government, namely government by law. Neither one man nor a mob of men may take precedence over law. For, if one mob takes this law into its hands, and another mob tafles that law, pretty soon we shall have no law; but we shall have government by mob.

We look with approval upon the growing disfavor with any sort of mob rule. The improvement may be attributed to more sensitive public conscience toward such things. If public con-

will be a dark stain on our boasted civilization. But it is gratifying to know that in 1923 there were only twenty-eight lynchings in this country, the smallest number in any year since accurate records have been kept. Thirty-nine States were free from the horror; there were but nine in which

PROVIDENCE R I BULLETIN
MARCH 22, 1924

Less Lynching

So long as any person is summarily executed by mob law in the United States there

science is at work, many other benefi changes may be expected.

summary punishment was inflicted upon victims who may or may not have been guilty of the offences charged against them.

Only four States have never been disgraced by lynchings, and Rhode Island is one of them. The other three are likewise in New England—New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts. Maine, Connecticut, New Jersey and Utah have had none since 1886, and Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin none in the last ten years. In 1923, for the first time since dependable records were begun, South Carolina and Alabama were free from the disgrace. It will be a great year for America when we are able to say that nowhere within the borders of the republic has any alleged criminal been refused the protection of the duly constituted courts.

N Y C WORLD
JULY 6, 1924

4,128 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. IN 39 YEARS REPORT DISCLOSES

Interracial Co-operation Commission Finds 3,146 of Victims Were of Negro Race.

85 WERE WOMEN, AND MANY INNOCENT DIED.

Georgia Mobs Top List With 258 Outrages From 1900 to 1922—Only 4 States Clean.

"Black Spots on the Map" is the title of an interesting study of lynching just published by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. In the thirty-nine years ending with 1923 American mobs took the lives of 4,128 persons. Of the victims, 1,036 were white and 3,146 were Negro.

Eighty-five of the number were women, 17 of them white and 68 Negro. Hundreds more, not included in the 4,128, were killed during the period in race riots, most of them innocent of any offense, as in Tulsa, East St. Louis, Ill., Washington and Chicago.

Every State in the Union except four has had one or more lynchings in the 39 years, the exceptions being Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Many Innocent.

The study shows that many of the victims were guilty of nothing, having been put to death as the result of mistaken identity, unfounded suspicion, of wild mob madness. Many were lynched for the most trivial offenses—"stealing hogs," "creating disturbance," "quarrel with employer," "failing to turn out of road," "not knowing his place," "assisting man to escape" and "striking man in altercation."

Homicides are said to have been the occasion of less than half the lynchings—about two-fifths, to be exact.

Actual or attempted criminal assault—the "usual crime" that many people think of as the sole cause of lynchings—was alleged in less than one-fourth of the cases. Sometimes the mere suspicion of such a purpose has been enough to put the mob in action.

In one series of lynchings in 1918, the Interracial Commission says at least six persons, possibly more, were put to death for murder with which only one of them, so far as could be learned, had any connection whatever. One of the number was a widow whose husband had just been lynched. Her only offense was the fact that she said she would not report her husband's murderers if she knew who they were.

"Many of the victims were tortured, mutilated, burned at stake with a ferocity unbelievable among civilized people," says the Interracial Commission. "The woman mentioned above, for example, was hung to a limb by her feet, her body was riddled with bullets and was then ripped open with knives. Not infrequently vast multitudes of men and women have gathered to see human victims tortured with hot irons, slashed with knives and slowly roasted to death. Even children have sometimes been the witnesses of these horrors. In some cases officers sworn to uphold the law have themselves taken part in lynchings. Hundreds of prisoners have been turned over to mobs without an effort for their protection."

On the Decrease.

The Commission believes that lynchings are on the decrease. It says:

"Bad as the record is, however, there are hopeful indications. The lynching habit is being steadily reduced both as to number of victims and area. Twenty-eight victims, the number lynched in 1923, are of course twenty-eight too many, and constitute a record of lawlessness and barbarism that shames America unspeakably in the eyes of the world. Yet there is hope for the fact that the 1923 record was the lowest in forty years and was only about one-fourth as high as the annual average for that period. The next lowest record was thirty-eight in 1917 and the highest was 255 in 1892. The average for the period was 109.

"The area affected is being steadily reduced also. Thirty-three States had lynchings in 1892; only nine in 1923. These were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia. Another hopeful indication is the fact that, in 1923, forty-six attempted or threatened, lynchings were prevented by the vigilance of officers, forty of these cases being in the South. All honor to the growing number of officers who put their oath of office above passion or fear of public sentiment."

The Commission believes lynching can be eradicated, expressing itself on the subject as follows: "That the habit can be practically eradicated is shown by the experience of certain States that have made special efforts to this end. Alabama, North Caralina, South Sarolina, Kentucky and Tennessee are notable illustrations. Alabama, with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the last forty years, had but two in 1922 and none in 1923. Tennessee, with an average of six, had but two in 1922, none last year and only five in the last five years. South Carolina, with an average of four, had but one in 1922 and none in 1923. North Carolina and Kentucky have had none in two years.

"In several States special legislation has been enacted and found very helpful in curbing lynching. Among the most effective measures are provision for the removal of officers who surrender prisoners to mobs, as in Alabama, Kentucky and South Carolina, and a State Constaubulary under the control of the Governor, as in Alabama and Tennessee. South Carolina has a further law making counties in which lynchings occur responsible for damages to the family of the victim. Measures like these, consistently applied, should make it possible for any State to reduce lynchings to the vanishing point."

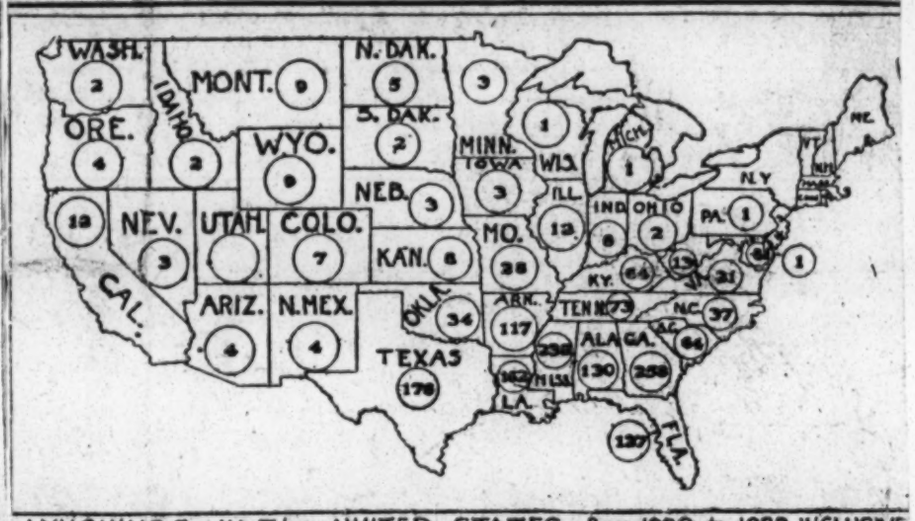
Public Sentiment Controls.

The Commission concludes by saying: But whatever the law, public sentiment at last controls. Lynching will cease when the people who make public sentiment cease to condone it, either actively, or by silence. The pulpits alone can speedily accomplish such a change of sentiment whenever they set themselves unitedly to the task. Meantime, every lynching that occurs discredits Christianity in the eyes of the world. The school teachers might do much by training the coming generation in respect for law and for human life.

"Every good citizen has a sacred obligation to do his utmost publicly and privately to uphold the law whenever it is threatened by the mob and to help create such a sentiment as will tolerate mob violence under no circumstances."

A map compiled by the Commission giving the number of lynchings in the United States from 1900 to 1922, inclusive, shows that during that period Georgia led with 258 lynchings, Mississippi next with 238, followed by Texas and Louisiana with 176 and 162, respectively.

LYNCHING BLOTS ON NATION



LYNCHINGS IN The UNITED STATES from 1900 to 1922 INCLUSIVE

Mob Rule Justice Is Seen Slipping

Nashville, Tenn., July 15.—That lynching is gradually being overcome in the South is indicated by a steady reduction in such crimes in Tennessee during the last few years, according to a report on this subject made by James D. Burton, secretary for the Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation.

Mob justice is shown to be on the decline both as to the number of victims and the area in which such crimes occur, the report sets forth. For a period of 23 years, from 1900 to 1923, 73 lynchings have been reported in Tennessee. Twelve counties had two-thirds of this total, 24 others had one each, and 60 counties had none, says the report.

Tennessee had five lynchings during the last five years, the report added, two in 1922, and none last year.

Lynchings—1924
Discussions

I.

White Press (Southern).

1594

MONTGOMERY ALA.
JAN 9 - 1924
Hunter

ABSENCE OF LYNCHINGS IN THIS STATE CAUSE FOR CONGRATULATION

It speaks well for Alabama's respect for the law that there was no lynching in this state last year, says the Anniston Star. For several years Alabama has had very few cases of mob violence, and last year this state presented a clean slate on the lynching record.

It also is satisfying to note that in 1922 the number of lynchings in all states in the south were not represent among those within whose borders lynchings occurred during the year.

When the courts act quickly and justice is speedily administered, the mob spirit which would take the law out of the courts and administer it in mob fashion is not likely to be aroused. It is fear that the courts may be slow in acting and that the guilty one may escape punishment through the law's delay that encourages lynchings. It is a tribute to Alabama courts that Alabama people have confidence in their courts and are willing to let the law take its course, confident that justice will be done.

But the absence of lynchings in Alabama and the decrease of lynchings in other states is gratifying for another reason. The decrease of crime is responsible for the decrease of mob violence. This is the first cause of the better showing made throughout the south in the number of lynchings. If crime was rampant and numerous cases were developed that ordinarily would arouse the feelings of the people to the point of administering their own kind of justice, without waiting for court action, there would doubtless be the usual number of lynchings. One crime especially that heretofore has been the cause of mob justice, that of criminal attacks by negroes upon white women, appears to be decreasing. Fewer cases of this kind were reported in 1923 than in previous years, and the consequence was that fewer lynchings were reported.

In Alabama, too, there is a third reason for the gradual elimination of the lynching evil. During the administration of Thomas E. Kilby, as governor, he declared that the laws of the state must be upheld, that officers would be required to protect prisoners from mobs, and that lynchings should cease.

Governor Kilby's determinated stand on the matter of upholding the majesty of the law, the promptness with which he acted to prevent threatened lynchings, taking pilace and the confidence of the people in his promise that the courts would be quick to act in all cases that ordinarily would have called for mob violence had much to do with the decrease of lynchings in this state.

LOUISVILLE KY POST
JANUARY 12, 1924

BREAK UP LYNCHING.

[illegible]erring to the great A[illegible]can scandal of the [illegible]aw, the New York World says editorially:

[illegible]Lynching," as Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant [illegible]etary of the Navy, states, "has been a stench [illegible]e nostrils of all liberty-loving, law-abiding [illegible]ricans." It is also true, as Col. Roosevelt [illegible]ts, that "there can be no compromise on the [illegible]," which "strikes at the root of Americanism."

[illegible]ut when Mr. Roosevelt recommends the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill to negro voters as a remedy for both evils he is wide of the mark. The Dyer measure is political in origin and would have only a political effect if passed. When communities organize to commit and to conceal the perpetrators of crimes, the Federal Government is quite as powerless as State Governments to bring about prosecutions and convictions.

The best remedy for lynching and for the Klan, as the figures for 1923 demonstrate, is negro migration. When negro workmen began to leave for the North in large numbers there was a sudden decline in mob murders in the South. Once the negro realizes the possibilities of this economic weapon, and uses it to the full, he will exert a more powerful influence against night-riding than would be exerted by a dozen Federal statutes.

With nearly everything said here the Post finds itself in agreement. But we do not oppose the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. It may be that it is unconstitutional, but, if so, we can find out. It may be that it will not accomplish the ends sought. But it will provide an additional instrument for the prosecution of those men who murder in the name of Judge Lynch, and, for one, the Post would like to see it tried. The menace to local rights we find very small. After all, the juries would have to be drawn from the local communities. This paper has no enthusiasm for the Dyer bill, for we feel that, if the State courts cannot punish lynchers, the Federal courts cannot either. But lynch law is such a foul blot on the nation's name that the Post will not say one word to prevent well-intended efforts to suppress it.

Unquestionably the World hits the nail squarely on the head when it refers to negro migration. There has been a lot of nonsense in the American press on this subject. We are told that the South is the best place for the negro, but that is no reason why the South should not be made a better place for the negro. If some of the negroes migrate to the North, the South will see how valuable is negro labor, and wages will go up, and the negro will receive better treatment all along the line. As things stand, the people of the South, the white people, like the negro, and are disposed to do the right thing by him. But the negro should help to take care of himself.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., PICAYUNE
JAN 23 1924

[illegible]f the Day

Lynching and Negro Migration.

Columbia State:

Were the contention of the New York World that migration of negroes is the best remedy for lynching in the South, what would be the effect of it on lynching in the North? Only the numerous and highly organized police of a great city has prevented attempts to lynch negroes in New York from being successful. Even in Boston attempts to lynch them are not unheard of. In Wilmington, Del., Coatsville, Pa., in many of the smaller towns and cities of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Mis[illegible]uri, negroes have been killed by [illegible]obs and bloody race riots have oc[illegible]rred. Not in fifty years, if at any [illegible]e, has so bloody a massacre of ne[illegible]oes occurred in the South as that [illegible] few years ago in East St. Louis, [illegible]ll.; and Tulsa, Okla., where another [illegible]imilar to it was of more recent hap[illegible]pening, is a town more Northern than [illegible]so thern. Generally speaking, lynch[illegible]ng of negroes in the North has kept [illegible]pace with their arrival in numbers, [illegible]except in cities so well policed [illegible]a mob is usually defeated and [illegible]persed before it can get into acti[illegible]In Duluth a mob of 5000 lynched t[illegible]negroes. Besides, negroes do not se[illegible]tle in Northern villages and rural di[illegible]riots. In few of them would they [illegible]be tolerated. Nor are they welcomed [illegible]in small cities. Ask the mayor of

[illegible]Johnston[illegible]
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Anderson, S. C.
Intelligencer
JAN 2 - 1924

[illegible]HINGS IN 1923.

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[illegible]strain a little pride ov-[illegible]er that South Carolina [illegible]ma[illegible]t a sing[illegible] lynching to mar the [illegible]record of the state during the year 1923. While this fact is nothing much over which to be proud, still it is better than we have been doing in the past, and may be taken as an indication that lynch law is diminishing in South Carolina.

However, while we are thinking about the matter, we might recall just how closely Anderson county came to spoiling the record of the rest of the state was making in keeping its history clear of lynchings. The quick, determined work on the part of Sheriff Marett and his deputies surely averted a lynching when they captured George Allen, the negro slayer of Cecil Hall and rushed him to the penitentiary. Allen was later tried, convicted of murder and was duly executed by the state. Theo Walker, another negro was captured just in time to prevent violence when he was being sought by a posse, being charged with criminal assault. Walker was found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment.

These two instances, henious crimes though they were, were surely handled much better through their lawful channels than if the posses which sought the men had found them and they had been summarily executed. In feeling proud of South Carolina's twelve month record, we have our officers to thank at least for bringing to justice two men who might have been lynched.

REVIEWER, Ga. Dept.
JAN 27 1924

To Move the "Lynching Belt"?

Columbia State: Were the contention of the New York World that migration of negroes is the best remedy for lynching in the South, what would be the effect of it on lynching in the North?

Only the numerous and highly organized police of a great city has prevented attempts to lynch negroes in New York from being successful. Even in Boston attempts to lynch them are not unheard of.

In Wilmington, Delaware; Coatsville, Pa., in many of the smaller towns and cities of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, negroes have been killed by mobs and bloody race riots have occurred. Not in fifty years, if at any time, has so bloody a massacre of negroes occurred in the South as that a few years ago in East St. Louis, Illinois;; and Tulsa, Oklahoma, where another similar to it was of more recent happening, is a town more Northern than Southern.

Generally speaking, lynching of negroes in the North has kept pace with their arrival in numbers, except in cities so well policed that a mob is usually defeated and dispersed before it can get into action. In Duluth a mob of 5,000 lynched two negroes.

Besides, negroes do not settle in Northern villages and rural districts. In few of them would they be tolerated. Nor are they welcomed in small cities. Ask the mayor of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Inquire of South Bend, Indiana. Hardly would the World of New York guarantee safety to negroes of South Carolina moving in numbers to the villages and farms of up-state New York.

Again speaking generally, negro safety and negro segregation are found together in the North in a few great cities, not elsewhere.

Concord, N.C.
Daily Tribune
MAY 30 1924

NO MORE LYNCHINGS

How North Carolina Has Solved the Problem

Review of Reviews.

If the spirit of lawlessness is ever conquered, victory will not be the result of round-table discussions. Neither can it be brought about by "conferences," or "resolutions" emanating therefrom. The task must be accomplished through a display of courage on the part of those in civil authority, backed up by the public conscience. Even the Church's power is limited when it comes to the treatment of Caesar's ills. Yet, the Church, if it will, may aid materially by helping to educate properly that portion of the public conscience represented in the pew. In the final analysis, however, the real responsibiliay rests with the State; and there it falls directly upon the shoulders of those in civil authority.

An attorney-at-law recently made comment upon the action of a Governor who, after a hard mental and nervous struggle, had commuted the sentence of a man (convicted of double murder) from death by electrocution to a term in the penitentiary. He declared: "I am always willing to leave such decisions with the Governor, and I never criticize. He is the custodian of the public conscience of the State. When we elect him to office we lock that conscience up in his heart and give him the key."

The Governor of a State is, then, the Supremest Court. Exercising his constitutional prerogatives, he holds not only the key to the public conscience but to every prison as well. He may modify the decisions of all criminal courts. Even in States where details leading up to the exercise of the pardoning power are handled by boards, the Governor has the final word. In the end he must approve or disapprove. He may give life or permit death. This is a terrible responsibility, the heaviness of which can be realized only by the Governor himself and those immediately surrounding him, whose privilege it is to be near him, to hear the prayers for mercy that are poured into his ears, and to behold him wading through the deep waters of decision.

It is the solemn duty of a Governor to see that the law is respected. Not the laws, for he is not a policeman. Not the statutes, for he is not a prosecuting attorney. As a matter of fact, the law is an abstract term, in contrast with written laws and statutes. Hence, it finds expression through the moral attitude of a people, rather than through theeir physical actions. Lawlessness, then, denotes an unmoral condition. Therefore, it robs the State, the community, of spiritual values. Lawlessness is a disregard for the law and not the violation of individual ordinances. It is a disregard for constituted authority, and can be either a cause or an effect.

Mob Rule and Its Evils.

One of the worst forms of lawlessness with which the States have had to contend is mob rule, which finds expression chiefly through the crime of lynching. The real victim, almost invariably, is one who, by the commission—or the alleged commission—of some heinous crime, has incurred a temporary and uncontrollable wrath of a community. The invisible victim, always, is the law. Society is the real loser. Less, respect for constituted authority is the inevitable result in each instance. This, no doubt, is because the perpetrators are seldom apprehended and rarely, if ever, punished.

Although lynching is associated almost exclusively with the South, in the minds of many, yet it is not by any means confined to that section. Outbreaks resulting in lynchings have occurred in many places north of the Mason and Dixon Line.

It must be admitted that the South has been the greatest sufferer. Consequently, the South has labored under the dual burden of merited humiliation and an exaggeration of facts and conditions. Frequent riots in the North, which sometimes have resulted in lynchings, have given the South ample grounds for a "come-back," but the South, in turn, has never launched an offensive of blame against sections in which this form of lawlessness has manifested itself, because it realizes, from experience, that mob rule is often the result of conditions which could not have been avoided.

Experience shows, however, that lynchings can be materially reduced, if not wiped out altogether, provided the task is undertaken in the right way.

There has always existed in the South a strong sentiment against the passage of federal laws to prevent lynching. It is needless to enter into a discussion of this. If the South's position is tenable, such legislation can best be warded off by the individual States. Whether pending or proposed legislation will be enacted into law by the national Congress before the States have conquered mob rule through their own individual policies, cannot be forecast. Such legislation, it must be admitted, in order to be fair minded, would not affect the South exclusively.

It has been stated that a Governor is not a policeman; and, broadly speaking, he is not. He may have the power to remove local police officers for incompetency, but even then he cannot enforce local laws. Nor can he enforce State-wide laws.

Yet the average American Governor can, by using the constitutional powers at his command, hinder the progress of mob rule and prevent lynchings and other lawless conduct to a marked degree.

What a Governor Can Do.

A striking example of just how far a Governor can go in this direction, by the exercise of his legitimate powers, is furnished by North Carolina. According to the best available information, North Carolina has had fewer lynchings than any other Southern State, during the past forty-year period; yet it by no means has a clear slate.

Under the existing order of things, brought about by a definite policy against all forms of lawlessness—more especially that form which finds expression in lynching—North Carolina furnishes an example that is worth more than passing notice. This policy, which has practically put an end to lynching, was inaugurated by the present Governor, Cameron Morrison, shortly after he took the oath of office, in January, 1921, and has been strictly adhered to. In no State are the powers of the Governor more limited than in North Carolina. He has not even the veto power. He cannot remove any sheriff or local police officer.

Yet, by using forces at his command, Governor Morrison has won a record for law enforcement. There has not been a lynching in the State since the first year of his administration. One occurred during the month that he was inaugurated. There were two victims, both Negroes. The trouble arose over ten cents' worth of apples, and in the riot that followed eight men were wounded. The lynching could not have been prevented, as the Governor was not notified until the two victims were in the hands of the mob. But within thirty minutes after he was advised of the situation troops were on the scene and further violence was prevented. Fourteen Negroes, guarded by soldiers, were placed in the penitentiary at Raleigh for safe-keeping.

State Pride a Factor.

This lynching had two outstanding effects. It placed North Carolina in the extremely embarrassing position of not being able to extradite from the Dominion of Canada a Negro who helped to incite the riot by severely cutting a white man. At the same time, it drew from the then new Governor the announcement of a fixed policy which, so far, has resulted in conquering mob rule.

Canada declined to permit extradition, on the ground that the prisoner, whose brother had already been lynched, would not receive a fair trial in North Carolina. It challenged the State to send witnesses if it wished to push its case. The Governor, with whom the matter rested, declined to do this, declaring: "I will not humiliate my State by permitting it tot be placed on trial in any foreign court."

Governor Morrison's policy is to send State troops to any community at the first sign of violence. He has often been heard to say, "I don't believe in sending soldiers to a funeral. It is too late then." When this policy had been in force two years, North Carolina was again put to the test, this time in Pennsylvania. A Negro wanted for murder was arrested in Pittsburgh. A requisition was issued on the Governor of Pennsylvania. Extradition was resisted under the same claim that had been used in Canada. But North Carolina, on its new record for law enforcement, won its case.

It so happened that at the very time the extradition hearing was in progress in Harrisburg, Brig.-Gen. J. Van B. Metts, the Adjutant General of North Carolina, was at Spruce Pine, sent there by Governor Morrison to prevent the threatened expulsion of all Negroes from that community.

A Prompt Show of Force.

The Governor's instructions to General Metts, delivered verbally in the chief executive's private office at Raleigh, constitute, in brief, his general policy on law enforcement. He said:

"A serious situation has arisen. There is a movement on foot tot exjel all Negroes, including many laborers, from Mitchell County. The center of the trouble seems to be Spruce Pine. I want you to go there at once and see that the rights of every person, black or white, are respected and that every man who wants to work be allowed to do so, unmolested. Inform the leaders of the movement that, unless they are prepared to whip the whole State, order must be restored at once. I am determined that lawlessness shall not get a foothold in North Carolina while I am Governor."

It can never be known what would have been the result of a situation that developed in the summer of 1922 had not the Governor taken quick and drastic action. Three Negroes had attacked a white woman who was motoring through the State with her husband. They were arrested by the sheriff of the county in which the crime was committed, and lodged in the penitentiary at Raleigh when it was learned that a mob was forming to take them from the hands of the law. The Governor was advised that this precaution had been taken, also of a rumor that a mob was on its way to Raleigh to take the Negroes out of prison and lynch them. By ten o'clock that night, the Adjutant General, acting under executive orders, had placed a machine-gun company and a number of infantry-

Morrison placed the town under military rule. He went there in person and delivered an address on the rights of capital and labor.

Support From People and Press.

In the use of State troops to prevent lynchings and industrial disorders, the Governor has had the hearty support of the people. In only one instance where he sent soldiers to prevent possible violence has there been anything like a formal protest. And in that case it was afterward learned that "resentment" was confined to a few persons, while the rank and file of the people of the community were in accord with the Governor's action.

Governor Morrison has used State troops not only to prevent lynchings but also to preserve order in strike zones. During the railroad strike of 1922, troops were stationed at Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Hamlet and Spencer. He did not wait for trouble actually to occur at any of these points, and he let it be known that we meant to afford protection to striking shopmen as well as to railroad property. No serious disorders occurred at any of these places.

During a textile strike at Concord, when the helplessness of the local police authorities became apparent, Governor

men inside the stockade. The Governor announced what he had done and issued a warning that any attempt to enter the prison would be met by stern force. No mob appeared.

Numerous instances could be cited where lynchings would undoubtedly have taken place during the past three years but for the presence of troops. In no case where troops have been used, however, has there been the slightest indication of further trouble. Thus, North Carolina has learned that threatened violence must be met by stern force; that an outbreak must be anticipated and prevented before violence actually manifests itself.

Lynchings—1924.
Discussion.

II.

White Press, (Southern).

Concord, N.C. Daily Tribune 5-20-24

or's actiton. This protest was voiced in a letter, and upon receipt of it Governor Morrison reiterated his fixed policy. "I am determined to use every particle of power given me by the Constitution of this State," he declared, "to prevent lynching while I am Governor, and I am going to do it by sending troops to any community as soon as I learn there is neede for them to prevent violence. Troops harm no one. They protect the citizen and in many instances save the good name of the county."

To the objectors he wrote: "I am very sorry to know that my action in ordering troops to your county recently, out of of the abundance of caution against any violence being done the prisoner, does not meet with your approbation. I am sure you can never know whether it was necessary or not. We cannot wait until actual violence actually manifests itself before acting. It would be too late ten."

This brought the press of the State to the Governor's support. To quote from one newspaper:

"Governor Morrison should not feel it necessary to defend his willingness to employ troops on slight pretexts is to be deplored. It can hardly be charged, however, that he has dispatched soldiers hither and yon at the smallest provocation. In every case he has waited until the situation assumed threatening proportions and the impotence of the local police establishment became apparent. Then he has acted with commendable firmness and promptness. His judgments have been usually vindicated by developments."

It can be safely asserted that public sentiment in North Carolina is not only in favor of law enforcement and the suppression of mob rule but that the present Governor's methods have met with almost universal approval. When troops have been dispatched to any community this action has almost invariably been in response to a call from the officials of that community.

A Victory For Justice and Education.

Hearty co-operation on the part of sheriffs and other police officers has materially aided Governor Morrison in the maintenance of law and order. Shortly after his inauguration he called upon all officers charged with the enforcement of law to notify him without delay of any threatened outbreak, pledging them prompt assistance. Response to this request has been gratifying.

North Carolina has learned from experience that there can be no possible mistake in letting the law take its course through orderly court procedure. It has learned, too, that unless a State upholds the sanctity of the law within its own borders it cannot successfull yextradite fugitives from other States. Consequently, it has earnestly—and by force when necessary—sought to remedy past mistakes by means of prevention rather than cure. And yet the victory has not been a purely military victory. The forces have been at work. The divided into two major groups—ju[stice] and education. Protection is not giv[en] the Negro because he is black, but to vindicate the law. Neither is justice withheld from him because of his color.

The Negro's reaction to treatment accorded him in this State finds expression in a resolution passed unanimously by the North Carolina Negro Teachers' Association, which reads as follows:

"We love our State and are loyal to its institutions. We declare our opposition to crime, no matter by whom committed, and pledge our assistance to those in authority in apprehending and bringing to justice those guilty of the violation of the law. We further pledge our selves to stand by the courts in order process of the law to the end that justice may be meted out through the proper channels to each and every offender.

This resolution is not only significant but encouraging as well. It bespeaks a condition toward the realization of which honest men and women in both races have been working for many years, and it is an unmistakable index to the good feeling that exists between the races.

Now, what does all this mean? Briefly, this: North Carolina has, in a measure at least, met the challenge that has been flung at the South since the Negro was freed from slavery; and in its successful battle against mob rule it has not only set an example for other Southern States but for Northern States as well. In solving the lynching problem it has been necessary to employ force. But, back of it all, the spirit of justice has been the dominating factor. To a weak race a stronger race has given justice as well as educational opportunities. The determination that law must be respected has been successfully put into operation. In accomplishing the task, North Carolina has not been forced to sacrifice an ounce of its pride and not a single "Southern tradition" has been lost.

WINCHESTER, KY. SUN
Tuesday, July 15, 1924

"MOB JUSTICE" IS DECLINING

Figures For Tennessee Indicate that "Judge Lynch" Is Losing Ground

Nashville, Tenn., JuJly 15—(By A. P.)—That lynching is gradually being overcome in the South is indicated by a steady reduction in such crimes in Tennessee during the last fe wyears, according to a report on this subject made by James D. Burfew years, according to a report on Inter-Racial Cooperation.

Mob justice is shown to be on the decline both as to the number of victims and the area in which such crimes occur, the report sets forth. For a period of 23 years, from 1900 to 1923, 73 lynchings have been reported in Tennessee. Twelve counties had two-thirds of this total, 24 others had one each, and 60 counties had none, says the report.

Tennessee had five lynchings during the last five years, the report added, two in 1922, and none last year.

SAVANNAH, GA. NEWS

APR 4 - 1924

EDITORIALS FROM THE NATIONAL PRESS

The Decline in Lynching.

Augusta Chronicle: The whole country is gratified over the fact that the record for lynching continues to show a decrease. It is not alone in the fact that lynching is decreasing that satisfaction is felt, but also that the crimes which actuated lynching are decreasing. The Chronicle has on previous occasions, repeatedly taken opportunity to comment favorably upon this indication of progress and with three months of the new year gone the outlook is for even fewer lynchings than last year, small as that number was, being less than half of the previous year.

Commenting upon this record for last year the New York World goes into detail upon the subject and says:

> While the twenty-eight lynchings in the United States for last year are black enough, there is a silver lining to the cloud in the fact that the record is the lowest in years. The explanation is to be found, not in the fear of possible legislation, but in the power of public opinion which has been enlisted on the side of law and order. The lynching habit in America was not due to an inherent depravity in the American people, but came down from the days of pioneering, when society, inadequately organized, was forced to take the law into its own hands.
>
> It is not a sectional vice, for, in the old days, in the Western country, horse and cattle thieves dangling from ropes in the forest were commonplaces.
>
> And it is significant, too, that public sentiment has been aroused, not because of the isolated instances of lynching in Southern states, but because of the violence of mobs bent on murder in the Northern city where Lincoln sleeps, in the city of Chicago, where Lincoln was nominated for the presidency, in East St. Louis and elsewhere in the North—where racial Southern and our Northern mobs has been that in the South they have centered usually on a single culprit, while in the North the mob has struck indiscriminately at a race.
>
> And it is Northern more than Southern mobs that have shocked the nation into a realization that lynching a man means lynching the law—and that civilization cannot exist where law is lynched.

Neither South, North, East or West, want any lynchings checked up against their communities. The conglomerate mass of humanity composing this country, with every section now practically on the same basis, we may expect the record to be more generally disseminated than in the past, but all of us, whether West, East, North or South, will join in deploring the crimes that bring about lynching and all of us will deplore lynchings, likewise. May they keep decreasing until they are a thing of the past.

GRIFFIN, GA., NEWS

JUL 19 1924

NEGRO, CARRIED FROM MISSISSIPPI JAIL, IS LYNCHED

By Associated Press.

Meridian, Miss., July 19.—Harry Shelton, a negro, was taken from the jail at Scooba, near here, last night and carried about four miles toward DeKalb and lynched.

He was hanged from a tree limb and his body was riddled.

He was said to have attempted to assault a white woman near the Electric mills a week ago.

NASHVILLE, TENN., BANNER
Reflector

JUL 3 1924

LYNCHING AT THE VANISHING POINT.

That the lynching habit can be practically eradicated is shown by the experience of Tennessee during the past few years, according to James D. Burton, State Secretary for the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation.

The lynching habit is being steadily reduced, both as to number of victims and area. For a period of twenty-three years, from 1900 to 1923, there were seventy-three lynchings in Tennessee; twelve counties had two-thirds of the whole, twenty four others had one each, and sixty counties had none. The State had but two in 1922, none last year, and only five in the last five years.

"But whatever the law," continues the report, "public sentiment at last controls, and it is here that ministers of the gospel, school teachers, and good citizens everywhere can change sentiment to such an extent that it will reduce lynching to the vanishing point."

The Inter-Racial Commission has over six hundred lead[illegible] citizens of the State serving on [illegible] committees who are helping to [illegible] sentiment favorable to law and order.

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NEW YORK CITY SUN
JULY 15, 1924

Lynching Decreasing In Southern States

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 15 (Associated Press).—That lynching is gradually being overcome in the South is indicated by a steady reduction in such crimes in Tennessee during the last few years, according to a report on this subject made by James D. Burton, secretary for the Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation.

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Tennessee had five lynchings during the last five years, the report added, two in 1922, and none last year.

Charlottesville Va.
Progress
1111 7 1924

THREATS OF LYNCHING DENIED

The Clifton Forge bank robbery attempt by a lone and amateurish bandit resulted in considerable excitement there for some time but, the Clifton Forge Reviews says emphatically, there were no threats of lynching.

"For the benefit of the people living at a distance," we quote from the paper in that city, "The Review desires to emphatically deny the report in one or more out-of-town newspaper that there were many threats of lynching."

We admire the frankness of this statement from the Clifton Forge Review, although the editor splits an infinitive to say it. Lynching is barbarism. A bank robbery, successful or unsuccessful, is no excuse for talk of lynching. It is but a common occurrence for which a jail sentence suffices in punishment.

Columbia, Tenn.
Herald
JUN 26 1924

tees who are helping ment favorable to ING CAP

TENNESSEE LYNCHING AT VANISHING POINT

NO LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR.

ONLY FIVE IN LAST FIVE YEARS.

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OPINIONS ON MOB TO BE EXPRESSED AT REVIVAL MEET

All Attending Will Have Chance to Take Stand

MEN FORM CLUB

Billy Sunday Preaches On "Unpardonable Sin"

Every person who attends the Billy Sunday revival Wednesday night at the tabernacle on the Haymarket will be given an opportunity to go on record publicly as condemning the action of the armed and masked mob that took Samuel Smith, 15-year-old negro boy, from the Nashville City hospital and lynched him, it was announced by Dr. W. F. Powell, pastor of the First Baptist church, at the close of the Tuesday night service.

Dr. Powell said it had not been definitely decided just what sort of proposition the assembly would be presented with, but that every person there would be allowed to express some sort of an opinion in some way, by standing to signify his support of a resolution condemning the action, or otherwise.

Nashville Tennessean
12-17-24

No Reference to Crime Made.

No reference to the crime was made by Mr. Sunday during his sermon, but a statement from him appeared in the afternoon Tennessean. The theme of the sermon of the evangelist Tuesday night was that "blasphemy against the Holy Ghost will neither be forgiven in this world nor in the next," and by a series of illustrations and clinging arguments, he proved to the almost 7,000 persons there that 'The Unpardonable Sin' is "the constant and continual and final rejection of Jesus Christ."

Mr. Sunday said that Jesus Christ will "warn you time and time again, and plead with you a long time, but if you reject him too long, there'll come a time when you can't get the great salvation He offered in years gone by."

The special delegations recognized Tuesday night were from several churches in the White's Creek neighborhood, and at the end of the service when the evangelist asked those who wished to pledge their faith in Jesus to come forward, almost without an exception, the White's Creek delegation came forward, shook hands with Mr. Sunday, and filled part of the 15 long rows that were used to seat those coming forward.

Men Organize Club.

Following the service about 75 men gathered in one corner of the tabernacle, and appointed a committee on organization to perfect plans for a Men's Christian Workers' club, and instructed it to report back Thursday night at the same time. Charles Mitchell, representing the Episcopalians, was made chairman of the committee, composed of the following: Dr. E. B Casey; Presbyterians, Richard Farris, Methodists; Prof. R. W. Jones, Baptists; C. L. Liggett Christians, and the Rev. C. M. Zwingle, the Cumberland Presbyterians.

Mr. Sunday announced that the noon services would be continued Wednesday at the Princess theater for both men and women, from 12, noon, until 12:45 "and we run on schedule time, too."

He will speak four times Sunday, at 10:30 a. m., at 1:30 p. m., at 3:30 p. m. and at 7:30 p. m. All services will be for both men and women except the 1:30 meeting, when Mr. Sunday will speak to men only.

Rodeheaver Goes to Jellico

In the absence of Homer Rodeheaver, song leader, who was in Jellico, Tenn., his former home, Tuesday night, giving a recital, Walter Jenkins, Memphis, who served as song leader for the Sunday party for a year while Mr. Rodeheaver was in Europe, was present and had charge of the music.

His leading, his solo numbers, his duets, with Mrs. William Ashford, and with Albert Peterson were applauded vigorously by the throngs, and Mr. Sunday said "There aren't two better song leaders in the world than Jenks and Rodie," as he stepped up to start his sermon.

Before he told his audience that the unpardonable sin is the constant rejection of Jesus Christ, Mr. Sunday, by a process of elimination, told what it wasn't.

"It isn't swearing, it isn't drunkenness, it isn't adultery, it isn't theft, and it isn't murder," Mr. Sunday told his audience, "But it is the constant and continual and final rejection of Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, and He says He won't forgive it, neither in this world nor in the next."

Nashville Tennessean
12-17-24

enters a hospital to sat-
man, the instigators are
dwich Island natives who
oons.—Anderson County

State Press Comment

DEC 20 1924

BACK TO SAVAGERY

During the holiday season the press is full of crime stories of every character, and it seems no locality is immune to the crime wave. Civilization shows little development in some of the cultured cities. In a hospital at Nashville this week a dangerously wounded negro was taken from his cot by a masked mob and lynched and riddled with bullets. The negro had shot a white man after he had been shot for tampering

Lynchings—1924.
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern).

1596

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
JAN 15 1924

THE WRONG "REMEDY."

When Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, urges the enactment of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which has been long pending in congress, as a cure for lynching, and urges the negro voters to support it, he is far adrift from the right channel.

That "lynching has been a stench in the nostrils of all liberty-loving, law-abiding Americans," is admitted by every upstanding citizen of this country, and no really effective effort should be spared to put an end to it. But the Dyer bill will not do it, nor is it intended to do so. It is a prejudicial political measure, purely, seeking to tear down the state judiciary in the southern states, when, as a matter of fact, lynchings are by no means confined to the south, and seeking at the same time to penalize state governments by building up dangerous and menacing encroachments of federal authority.

The fact is, if a state government, or a trial by jury in a state court cannot convict defendants charged with lynching there is no good reason to suppose that a federal court in the same jurisdiction can do any better. In the meantime, if the state courts are embarrassed in the prosecution of crime, the bars are let down to increased mob violence, for it is an established fact that lynchings increase as the result of the slow court trials and the uncertainties of justice and the final execution of the penalties prescribed.

The way to stop lynchings is to arouse the public conscience against mob violence, and to strengthen rather than to embarrass the state judiciary. There has been a perceptible decrease in lynchings in Georgia in the past two or three years.

The Dyer bill is dangerous. It is undemocratic. It is a blow at the institutions of this government as created under the federal constitution.

Colonel Roosevelt has the right idea about the crime of lynchings, but a wrong idea as to the remedy.

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Atlanta Constitution
1-15-24

Moorsville, N.C.
Enterprise
JAN 31 1924

Question of Lynchings And Their Causes

Monroe Journal.

Various of our newspapers have found a lot of satisfaction in the fact that no lynching took place in North Carolina last year, and this paper yields to none in gratification at that fact. Charity and Children, and perhaps other papers, think that Governor Morrison has had a good deal to do with producing the good record by reason of his promptness in meeting threats with a show of force. No doubt this has helped some and we would not take any credit away from the governor. We have always held that when people in authority quit excusing lynching and coddling those that practiced it, lynching would become less. It largely subsided after Governor Glenn's gesture at it. The lyncher is never a man who thinks much. He imitates, or follows impulse. So long as we heroize the lyncher he thrives.

But all this refers to mere physical lynching. We wonder if so good a showing could be made as to other forms of lynching. Any society is to be congratulated when it reaches the point that it is willing to trust to law and due process for the protection of life and property, and if we are reaching this point in a pronounced degree it is well. How are we progressing in getting away from intellectural lynching?

By intellectual lynching we mean judging a man or a cause by an incident, a circumstance, an irrelavancy, or a mistake of judgment rather than by a broader and fairer standard. Intellectual lynching is rampant in North Carolina. In religious controversy, in politics, in social life, everywhere, it is rampant.

Woodrow Wilson said of Claude Kitchen that he never knew a man who could state your position more fairly or answer it more logically. No better thing was ever said of a man.

Too much in North Carolina we reverse this and unfairly state an opponent's position then illogically answer him.

Anderson S.C.
Intelligencer
JAN 22 1924

FEWEST LYNCHINGS IN FORTY YEARS

Hope Seen In 1923 Record, Which Marks Lowest Point, But Prevention Is the Chief Hope, Says Interracial Commission.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 21.—(Special).—That the lynching record for 1923, numbering 28 victims, is the lowest in the forty years during which the records have been kept, and is only about one-third as high as the average for that period, is the statement of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, with headquarters in this city.

The next lowest record was 38 in 1917, the highest was 255 in 1892, and the average for the forty year period has been 109.

The commission points out also that the area affected is steadily being reduced, from 33 states in 1892 to nine last year. The commission believes that public sentiment and faithful officials are determined to put an end to lynchings.

On the other hand, the discouraging fact is pointed out that local courts last year failed almost utterly to apprehend and punish the members of mobs in only three of the 1923 cases, so far as the commission could learn, were any arrests made or indictments returned. In two of these cases no convictions were secured. Results in the third case have not been learned Repeated inquiries of local officials failed to reveal any other legal action, beyond fruitless grand jury investigations.

The difficulty of securing evidence and convictions in such cases, says the commission, indicates the need in several states of special preventive legislation. Among the suggested measures, which have proved effective in other states, are provisions for removal of officers who surrender prisoners, the fining of counties where lynchings occur, and a state constabulary under control of the governor.

Talk of the Day

Lynching and Negro Migration.

Columbia State:

Were the contention of the New York World that migration of negroes is the best remedy for lynching in the South, what would be the effect of it on lynching in the North? Only the numerous and highly organized police of a great city has prevented attempts to lynch negroes in New York from being successful. Even in Easton attempts to lynch them are not unheard of. In Wilmington, Del., Coatsville, Pa., in many of the smaller towns and cities of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, negroes have been killed by mobs and bloody race riots have occurred. Not in fifty years, if at any time, has so bloody a massacre of negroes occurred in the South as that a few years ago in East St. Louis Ill.; and Tulsa, Okla., where another similar to it was of more recent happening, is a town more Northern than Southern. Generally speaking, lynching of negroes in the North has kept pace with their arrival in numbers, except in cities so well policed that a mob is usually defeated and dispersed before it can get into action. In Duluth a mob of 5000 lynched two negroes. Besides, negroes do not settle in Northern villages and rural districts. In few of them would they be tolerated. Nor are they welcomed in small cities. Ask the mayor of Johnstown, Pa. Inquire of South Bend, Ind. Hardly would the World of New York guarantee safety to negroes of South Carolina moving in numbers to the villages and farms of up-state New York. Again speaking generally, negro safety and negro segregation are found together in the North in a few great cities, not elsewhere.

Atlanta, Ga. JOURNAL
JAN 7 - 1924

No won[illegible] newspapers excoriate Southern [illegible] do our lynching so crudely do[illegible] part of the country. Up North—away [illegible] in Maine—they do it with a more savage touch. John Snow, an insane man, killed his wife and two other women recently, but cheated the lynchers by killing himself also. But they got even with him by exhuming his body, placing it in the cottage where the murders occurred and burning the building. This is better form and much less dangerous than the old-fashioned hemp and limb method followed in the South.—Rome News-Tribune.

Chester, S. C. Reporter

JAN 3 - 1924

South Carolina did not have a single lynching during the year 1923, which probably breaks all records for many years, as the quick court of justice has been in vogue since before the Civil War. One year during Governor Manning's administration the only lynching in the State was the killing of a negro preacher in York county, which could hardly be termed a lynching.

BINGHAMTON N. Y. SUN
JANUARY 17, 1924

ANTI-LYNCHING FUND GAINS ADVOCATES IN BINGHAMTON

A local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is being formed here, 40 members already having joined the organization.

Following the meeting held in the Colored Citizens' Club rooms in the Herald Building January 10, a membership committee was appointed as follows: Mrs. F. L. Smith, Mrs. James Palmer, Mrs. W. O. Lipscomb, Mrs. H. B. Bryan, Mrs. D. W. Smith, Mrs. J. E. Lipscomb, Mrs. E. Wallace, G. Blue, Mrs. L. Reynolds, Mrs. M. Dorsey and Mrs. T. B. Crawley.

These committee workers are receiving applications for membership and donations to the anti-lynching fund. They announce that any American citizen of any race, color or nationality may join this organization.

Leonard J. Thomas, president of the Binghamton branch, has announced that the arguments offered by William Pickens, field secretary of the national organization, who addressed the meeting January 10, has convinced many local colored people of the value of a branch of the association in Binghamon.

The principal object of the organization is to abolish the practice of lynching. Mr. Pickens said that in 35 years more than 40,000 citizens of the United States have been lynched. As a result of the association's efforts, it is claimed that there were less lynchings in 1922 than in 1923.

To Move the "Lynching Belt?"

Were the contention of the New York World that migration of negroes is the best remedy for lynching in the South, what would be the effect of it on lynching in the North?

Only the numerous and highly organized police of a great city has prevented attempts to lynch negroes in New York from being successful. Even in Boston attempts to lynch them are not unheard of.

In Wilmington, Delaware, Coatsville, Pa., in many of the smaller towns and cities of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, negroes have been killed by mobs and bloody race riots have occurred. Not in 50 years, if at any time, has so bloody a massacre of negroes occurred in the South as that a few years ago in East St. Louis, Illinois; and Tulsa, Oklahoma, where another similar to it was of more recent happening, is a town more Northern than Southern.

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Louisville Ky.
JAN 24 1924

LYNCHINGS IN the United States decreased more than fifty percent during 1923 as compared with 1922. During 1923 there were twenty-eight lynchings as compared with fifty-seven for 1922.

Bremen, Ga.
JAN 3 - 1924

No wonder northern newspaper excoriate southern mobs. We do our lynching so crudely down in this part of the county. Up North—away up in Maine—they do it with a more savage touch. John Snow, an insane man, killed his wife and two other women recently, but cheated the lynchers by killing himself also. But they got even with him by exhuming his body placing it in the cottage where the murders occurred and burning. This is better form and much less dangerous than the old-fashioned hemp and limb method followed in the south.

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JAN 17 1924
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But all this refers to mere physical lynching. We wonder if so good a showing could be made as to other forms of lynching. Any society is to be congratulated when it reaches the point that it is willing to trust to law and due process for the protection of life and property, and if we are reaching this point in a pronounced degree it is well. How are we progressing in getting away from intellectual lynching?

By intellectual lynching we mean judging a man or a cause or a mistake of judgment, rather than by broader and fairer standards. Intellectual lynching is rampant in North Carolina. In religious controversy, politics, in social life, everywhere, it is rampant.

Woodrow Wilson said of Claude Kitchin that he never knew a man who could state your position more fairly or answer it more logically. No better thing was ever said of a man.

Too much in North Carolina we reverse this and unfairly state an opponent's position and then illogically answer him.

Savannah, Ga. News
JAN 12 1924

See where the Dyer anti-lynching bill has started out again, toward the same goal it reached before—defeat. Under the provisions of the original bill it was a lynching if two men killed a third. And the county in which such a lynching occurred would be liable to the family of the lynchee in the sum of $10,000. If two or three bandits killed a man, that would be lynching—and just think how much money New York counties would have to pay out!

Lynchings—1924
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern).

1597

Greenville, S. C., Piedmont

JAN 5 - 1924

THE LIGHT OF CIVILIZATION.

Five hundred and thirty-one days without a lynching in South Carolina is a record for the past half century. It is a record about which we may have great satisfaction, but in which we can not take pride. For at this stage of world-civilization, no section of a supposedly civilized area may have pride in not being uncivilized. Where the law should control and does not; where the mob assumes the functions of court, judge and jury, and then escapes punishment for the murders it commits, there is not civilized government. The acts of such mobs become a reproach and a disgrace.

Decent men can have no pride in not being thieves or assassins. Their standard of life demands observance of the fundamental principles of the ethics of God and civilized. With them decent conduct is but normal.

So we whites of South Carolina, who make the government, who have the machinery of the courts absolutely within our control, with every agency to secure rigorous justice, and without reason to fear that a prisoner guilty of any crime for which lynching is an alleged excuse may escape punishment, can not preen ourselves upon the fact that for the span of two full years no mob has flouted the courts or brought humiliation upon the constituted officers of the law.

But we may be truly thankful that the influence of an enlightened public opinion is making its impress upon that element which constitutes mobs; that sheriffs evidence a keener understanding of their obligation to law and society and hereby arouse greater respect and fear in those who would otherwise treat them with contempt, and that finally the influence of a better educated and more self-respecting, and therefore law respecting class of negroes, is working downward to the lower strata of the race. Their weight of "public opinion" is being felt.—Columbia State.

COLUMBIA, S. C., State

JAN 3 - 1924

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Mr. Atkinson's Call to Action.

The enthusiasm and earnestness of the Rev. George H. Atkinson, manifested in the letter published in The State this morning, in behalf of saving to this city and South Carolina the revered Columbia Theological Seminary, should kindle responsive enthusiasm not only among Presbyterians but South Carolinians—especially Columbians.

Mr. Atkinson is not a stranger here. His father was, a generation ago, president of the College for Women, now Chicora. But he has been many years in other sections and has seen what men can do when they will to do. He believes much more may be done than save this venerable institution to Columbia; he believes it may be so strengthened in equipment and opportunity, that great expansion would result. He believes the present site of the Theological Seminary "would make an ideal place for the Association of the Blind of South Carolina." That would be for the Legislature.

Mr. Atkinson may have more definite hopes of achieving a great end than he has submitted to paper. He may have formulated a working plan. At any rate he is willing and ready to work. He says: "I will ask the great institution I am connected with in Chicago (Moody Bible Institute) to lend me to this campaign for a week." He will serve in any capacity.

But Mr. Atkinson will do more than work. He will contribute one thousand dollars "as a memorial gift in my father's name." Here is a man ready to work, ready to give, ready to lead. Success would be easy with united effort. Will his spirited call be heard and heeded?

...BURG S. C. HERALD

MAY - 8

THE ORANGEBURG LYNCHING

It is quite evident from the comment of the Orangeburg Sun that the recent lynching in that county is not being very seriously investigated. The lynching in Orangeburg County some weeks ago was a senseless sort of a crime and coming as it did after South Carolina had refrained from that kind of outlawry for more than two years, there was more than ordinary public disgust and indignation. We quote from the Orangeburg Sun:

"We do not know how much of an investigation has been made into the recent lynching of a negro in the Norway section. We do know that nobody is going to step forward with information along guilty lines.

"If there is a real desire to make a start in the matter it might be a good idea to find out a few matters. Why was there a six weeks' delay between the act of which the negro was accused and his arrest? When did the alleged victim identify him, and under what circumstances? Why was the accused taken to Norway when the nature of the charge should have led to his incarceration in Orangeburg or Columbia?

"The Sun knows not the answer to these questions. There may be good, reasonable explanations for everything connected with the handling of the negro. But the decent people of Orangeburg County should see that this lynching is condemned, and the officials should see that an investigation is made in straightout fashion, in order that those who have a mind in the future to lynch an accused man will at least realize that there will be an aftermath to their disregard of the law."

To apprehend and punish lynchers is recognized as one of the most difficult to accomplish and for that reason there is seldom public confidence in the machinery of the law to reach such cases, but there is a growing sentiment in this State against the crime and the public expects the officers of the law to prevent it—even at the cost of their own lives.

SPARTANSBURG S C HERALD
MAY 8, 1924

THE ORANGEBURG LYNCHING

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Norway's Publicity.

The town of Norway, this county, has received some widespread publicity during the past week. Two news events were scattered over press wires throughout the United States as a matter of news. In some sections both of them will be used to emphasize the idea that white people in South Carolina mistreat the negro. As a matter of truth every one hereabouts understands that such occurrences are the exception, that most of the race here receives good treatment.

The newspapers of the state, particularly, featured the arrest of eight white men, including a member of the House of Representatives, on a charge of beating a negro woman, after taking her from her house one night. We know nothing about the guilt of the accused, but presume that they are innocent, and hope they can establish the fact. At the same time the woman was beaten, against the law, and apparently in a violent manner. Somebody violated the law and should be punished for it.

The lynching Sunday evening exhibits an interesting observance of Easter, perhaps not excelled for contrast, as the lynchers, without compunction, "crusified" the victim. He was known as a bad negro, and is said to have been a moral pervert. His past history indicates that he was punished for a serious crime, and while rightly punished, the penalty was executed in an illegal way, and the manner of its doing must be condemned by those who stand for law and order.

The party that took Luke Adams to his death place acted under great provocation, and it is not easy to condemn them, because none of us know exactly what we would do, ourselves, under the same influence. Nevertheless, it was the first lynching in South Carolina in more than two years, and mars a record in which right-thinking men, who love their state, were taking much pride.

Lynchings on Decrease, Latest Survey Proves

But 4,128 Have Been Recorded in 39 Years—Every State But Four Have Had Lynchings— Tennessee Leads in Curbing Mob Action.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 7.—"Black Spots on the Map" is the title of an interesting study of lynching just published by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. In the 39 years, ending with 1923, American mobs took the lives of 4,128 persons Of the victims 1,036 were white and 3,146 were negroes.

Eighty-five of the number were women. 17 of them white and 68 negro. Hundreds more, not included in the 4,128, were killed during the period in race riots, most of them innocent of any offense as in Tulsa, East St. Louis, Ill., Washington and Chicago.

Every state in the Union except four, has had one or more lynchings in the 39 years, the exceptions being Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

The study shows that many of the victims were guilty of nothing, having been put to death as the result of mistaken identity, unfounded suspicion, of wild mob madness. Many were lynched for the most trival offenses—"stealing hogs," "creating disturbances," quarreling with employer," "failing to turn out of read," "not knowing his place," "assisting man to escape" and "striking man in altercation."

Homicides are said to have been the occasion of less than half the lynchings, about two-fifths to be exact.

Actual or attempted criminal assault—the "usual crime" that many people thing is as the sole cause of lynchings—was alleged in less than one-fourth of the cases. Sometimes the mere suspicion of such a purpose has been enough to put the mob in action.

In one series of lynchings in 1918, the Interracial Commission says at least six persons, possibly more were put to death for murder with which only one of them, so far as could be learned, had any connection whatever. One of the number was a widow whose husband had just been lynched. Her only offense was the fact that she said she would not report her husband's murderers if she knew who they were.

"Many of the victims were tortured, mutilated, burned at stake with a ferocity unbelievable among civilized people," says the Interractial Commission. "The woman mentioned above, for example, was hung to a limb by her feet, her body was riddled with bullets and was then ripped open with knives. Not infrequently vast multitudes of men and women have gathered to see human victims tortured with hot irons, slashed with knives and slowly roasted to death. Even children have sometimes been the witnesses of these horrors. In some cases officers sworn to uphold the law have themselves taken part in lynchings. Hundreds of prisoners have been turned over to mobs without an effort for their protection."

On the Decrease.

The Commission believes that lynchings are on the decrease. It says:

"Bad as the record is, however, there are hopeful indications. The lynching habit is being steadily reduced both as to number of victims and area. Twenty-eight victims, the number lynched in 1923, are of course twenty-eight too many, and constitute a record of lawlessness and barbarism that shames America unspeakably in the eyes of the world. Yet there is hope for the fact that the 1923 record was the lowest in forty years and was only about one-fourth as high as the annual average for that period. The next lowest record was thirty-eight in 1917 and the highest was 255 in 1892. The average for the period was 109.

"The area affected is being steadily reduced also. Thirty-three states had lynchings in 1892; only nine in 1923. These were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia. Another hopeful indication is the fact that, in 1923, forty-six attempted, or threatened lynchings were prevented by the vigilance of officers, forty of these cases being in the south. All honor to the growing number of officers who put their oath of office above passion or fear of public sentiment."

The Commission believes lynchings can be eradicated, expressing itself on the subject as follows: "That the habit can be practically eradicated is shown by the experience of certain states that have made special efforts to this end, Alabama, North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee are notable illustrations. Alabama, with a yearly average of eight lynchings for the last forty years, had but two in 1922, and none in 1923. Tennessee, with an average of six, had but two in 1922, none last year and only five in the last five years. South Carolina, with an average of four, had but one in 1922 and none in 1923. North Carolina and Kentucky have had none in two years.

"In several states special legislation had been enacted and found very helpful in curbing lynchings. Among the most effective measures are provision for the removal of officers who surrender prisoners to mobs, as in Alabama, Kentucky and South Carolina and a state constabulary under the control of the governor, as in Alabama and Tennesse. South Carolina has a further law making counties in which lynchings occur responsible for damages to the family of the victim. Measures like these consistently applied, should make it possible for any state to reduce lynchings to the vanishing point.'

Public Sentiment Controls.

The Commission concludes by saying: "But whatever the law, public sentiment at last controls. Lynching will cease when the people who make public sentiment cease to condone it, either actively, or by chance. The pulpits alone can speedily accomplish such a change of sentiment whenever they set themselves unitedly to the task. Meantime, every lynching that occurs discredits Christianity in the eyes of the world. The school teachers might do much by training the coming generation in respect for law and for human life.

"Every good citizen has a sacred obligation to do his utmost publicly and privately to uphold the law whenever it is threatened by the mob and to help create such a sentiment as will tolerate mob violence under no circumstances."

Lynchings on Decrease.

That the Dyer anti-lynching bill or any other similar federal measure is useless as it will be vexatious is an obvious truth derived from the lynching statistics for 1923 given out by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation. These figures show that during last year there were but 28 lynchings throughout the country as compared with an average of 109 for the last 39 years. The next lowest record was 38 in 1917 and the highest was 255 in 1892. The figures also show that the area of lynchings is being reduced along with the number of victims. In 1892 lynchings were reported by 33 of the states of the Union while last year mob violence occurred in only nine of the 48 commonwealths. Besides the statistics gathered show that 46 attempted lynchings in 1923 were averted by the vigilance of the law enforcing officers, which fact is dwelt upon as the most favorable bit of news in connection with the whole question of mob violence.

The fact that the great majority of lynching attempts were prevented, coupled with the great reduction in the number of attempts, is indeed most significant. It shows that the lynchings and other acts of mob violence can be prevented by the states if the law enforcing officers exert sufficient diligence, energy and courage. There is no more valid reason for the federal government to take over the handling of lynchings or other acts of mob violence than there is for the national authorities to attempt the enforcement within the states of the laws against murder, larceny, arson, rape or any other criminal offense, If the states can administer their criminal statutes for all other crimes they can surely enforce the laws against mob violence.

Besides being useless a federal anti-lynching law would be most vexatious for the states and would tend to defeat the very end it sought to attain. To begin with, the Dyer anti-lynching law, as it has been cast, or any similar bit of legislation, would be construed by the ignorant or vicious as federal protection for them in the commission of the usual crimes for which lynchings are invoked. And it is the ignorant and vicious who are chiefly guilty of such crimes. They would assume that the federal government is putting a premium on crime through the provision in any federal law for a fine of $10,000 or any other amount on the community where a lynching occurs, such fine to be paid to the relatives of a victim of lynching. That an assumption of that sort is by no means far fetched we must admit when we consider the desperate state of mind of the individual who would commit the kind of crime that provokes the lynching spirit. So that the Dyer bill very probably would increase rather than decrease the number of lynchings through increasing the number of crimes that cause lynchings.

If the federal government stays hands off the lynching problem and allows it to be handled exclusively by the states it will be settled in due time. The best thought and the highest citizenship in all sections of the country are united in the purpose to remove from the state as well as the national escutcheon the stain that acts of mob violence leave. The states are proceeding to a settlement of the matter very happily as the figures for 1923 reveal. Why not allow them to continue in the work they have begun? When any vexing problem is moving along to settlement why impede such settlement or introduce complications into the work? The public conscience has reprobated mob violence and public sentiment operating along normal channels will bring about its elimination. What is well begun should not be interfered with.

Lynchings—1924. I.
Discussions.

White Press (Southern).

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1608

JUL 29 1924

That Savannah's reputation for being law-abiding is jealously maintained by her friends even when they go as far away as Buenos Aires is proved by a letter Sheriff Meritt W. Dixon has received from the South American city.

It is signed Edward W. Washington and reads as follows:

"I would like to take up a little of your time for a few minutes, if you please.

"I was in a conversation with a newspaper reporter here. We were speaking about the Southern part of the U. S. A. and its conduct. He said he didn't like the South because they lynch people all over the South. My word to him was that he was wrong.

"Well, by my saying that it brought on an argument. I then told him that Chatham county, the county in which I was born, had never had a lynching. He then said that two negro boys were lynched in Savannah, Ga., last year.

"So I'm betting 200 U. S. dollars to $100. Will you please answer this letter at once stating that there was never a lynching in Savannah nor in Chatham county."

The writer signs himself, "Yours truly, a home boy, Edward W. Washington.

Sheriff Dixon has not answered the letter yet but he expects to do so—not so much to help the "home boy" win his bet as to justify his defense of his home town.

The style of the letter, which has been somewhat amended for publication, and its substance created a considerable amount of interest around the courthouse.

JUL 18 1924

(By The Associated Press.)

Nashville, Tenn., July 17.—That lynching is gradually being overcome in the South is indicated by a steady reduction in such crimes in Tennessee during the last few years, according to a report on this subject made by James D. Burton, secretary for the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation.

Tennessee had five lynchings during the last five years, the report added, two in 1922 and none last year.

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JUL 18 1924

LYNCHING UNPOPULAR

In 1918 there were 45 lynchings in the United States; in 1919, there were 29; in 1920, 12; in 1921, 36; in 1922, 30; in 1923, 15; and in the first six months of 1924, five. It is encouraging that the record for the first six months of 1924 is the lowest for the same period in 40 years, and that there has been a downward decrease during this period. The Outlook, commenting on this gratifying decrease, says that we may be near the day when the report will be, "there were no lynchings last year."

As to the cause of this decrease, President Moton of Tuskegee Institute is of the opinion, and no doubt rightly so, that the main cause is in the growth of public opinion against lynching, and that a secondary cause is the spread and potency of inter-racial co-operation. While there have been many temptations to reap summary vengeance where the racial element was not involved, a majority of the lynchings have been where it was involved. The five lynchings reported during this year were all of Negroes; four of these were for attacks upon women, and one for killing an officer.

Anyone who has kept in touch with public opinion in its attitude toward lynching coud not fail to be impressed with the growing and popular condemnation of it. The editors have been especially severe in their arraignment, and the ministers and other voices of the moral conscience have registered indignation. When a thing becomes unpopular, it tends to cease. While much credit is due inter-racial committees and organized movements, the greater credit belongs to the improved moral sense of the people, which makes mob violence distasteful.

LYNCHING AT THE VANISHING POINT

That the lynching habit can b practically eradicated, is shown by th experience of Tennessee during th past few years, according to Jame D. Burton, State Secretary for th Commission on Inter-Racial Co-oper ation.

Southern Christian Recorder

The lynching habit is being steadi ly reduced, both as to number of vic tims and area. For the period of 2 years, from 1900 to 1923, there were 78 lynchings in Tennessee, 12 coun ties had 2-3 of the whole, 24 othe had 1 each, and 60 counties had none The state had but 2 in 1922, none las year, and only 5 in the last 5 years

"But whatever the law," continue the report, "public sentiment at las controls, and it is here that minis ters of the Gospel, school teachers and good citizens everywhere ca change sentiment to such an exten that it will reduce lynching to the vanishing point."

7-24-24

The Inter-Racial Commission ha over six hundred leading citizens o the state serving on county commit tees who are helping to create senti ment favorable to law and order.

JAMES D. BURTON.

AUG 27 1924

Chastity and Children.

North Carolina has passed a year without a lynching having occurred to her discredit. This means more to thoughtful people, than all her material progress. It means that our people are learning to restrain themselves and to honor and obey the law. It means also that roughnecks are no longer dominant even in times of the wildest excitement. To whom are we most indebted for this better state of things? Without hesitation we give the credit to Governor Cameron Morrison. To the remarkable advancement of the State under the present administration in every way, this crowning moral achievement must be added. Gov. Morrison has not allowed his sympathy to run away with his judgment. He is not a hard hearted or a cruel man. His personal suffering under the pressure brought to bear upon him in one or two cases sent him to bed, but he remembered the larger good. He did not forget his duty to society in his sympathy for the criminal. Right at this point most of our governors have shown their greatest weakness and their over-riding the courts and setting the guilty free, has done more than any other one thing to trengthen the sentiment in favor of lynching parties. The swift and adequate protection of the State to helpless prisoners has marked Gov. Morrison's administration from the first. He has headed off the wild and unreasoning mob by his firm and rapid action. He spares no pains or expense in guarding the accused from furious passion, and in so doing has upheld the majesty of the law and turned the tide against the barbarism of the mob. The Governor has used the pardoning power wherever it was necessary, but he has never abused it and in so doing he has set an example to his successors which we sincerely hope will not be lost.

Boston, Ga.
Boston Georgian
7/18/24

We noticed by the Birmingham ing to our exchange table week a statement issued from the Tuskegee Institute, a negro school of Tuskegee, Ala., making known the fact that only 5 lynchings have occurred so far in the United States this year. The writer who issued the statement was very pleased that no more lynching had occurred. He did not say a word about being pleased that no more of the usual crimes which cause lynchings had occurred. Oh, no! They don't seem to care how our womenfolks are treated, just so there are no lynchings. But there is one grand principle in the breast of every Southern Gentleman and that is to protect the virtue and honor of our women folks. If the negroes want lynching to stop, let them educate their race against the crime that causes lynchings. For there one thing sure, when a black brute attacks a white woman, he has got to die and the quicker gotten out of the way the better for all parties concerned. We believe in the law taking its course, but the lawyers have the habit of playing with the law in such a way as to delay justice, that it is necessary sometimes to take their play "purty" away from them. A lawyer who will delay justice in order to swell his pocketbook ought to be executed as any other criminal for a capital crime. They are in the same class. And if the negroes of Tuskegee Institute really want lynching to cease in this country, let them commence at once a campaign of educating their race against the usual lynching crime. Put a stop to the cause of lynchings and the lynchings of course will stop. But not until then. Now we don't want our readers to jump to the conclusion that this paper is in favor of lynch law—it is not. We stand for law and order—always have and always will. But any law losesit

MAY - 9 1924

THE ORANGEBURG LYNCHING

It is quite evident from the comment of the Orangeburg Sun that the recent lynching in that county is not being very seriously investigated. The lynching in Orangeburg County some weeks ago was a senseless sort of a crime and coming as it did after South Carolina had refrained from that kind of outlawry for more than two years, there was more than ordinary public disgust and indignation. We quote from the Orangeburg Sun:

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Spartanburg Herald
Spartanburg S. C.
7/17/24

The gratifying report is out that only five lynchings occurred in the United States within the past six months ending July 1. This is the lowest record of mob violence in the same length of time in forty years. This is a matter for devout thanksgiving and shows that our people are becoming more civilized.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
OCTOBER 13. 1924

LYNCHING DECLINING

[Kansas City Star.]

GRADUALLY diminishing number of lynchings seems to indicate the ultimate disappearance of an evil that for many years has been a blot upon the country. Thirty years ago 200 or more lynchings in America annually were not uncommon. After a few years the number had been reduced to about 100; then, gradually, to about 60, and last year to 28. In the first half of this year only five lynchings were reported.

The rapid decline of the evil in the last two or three years is attributed to growth of a better feeling between the races and to racial co-operation, especially in the South. The churches in that section are credited with effective efforts at cultivation of racial harmony, and inter-racial commissions in all the States have worked to the same end. It may be that the South has been stimulated to greater activity in this matter and to moves to deal justly with the negro because of heavy migration of negroes from the section. But, whatever the cause, the effect is wholesome.

Perhaps not the least significant feature of the situation is that a national evil is being brought under control largely by the creation of public sentiment rather than resort to or the enactment of laws. There were laws against lynching, of course, in the States where it was most prevalent, as in other States. But it is not to the enforcement of these laws that one must look for an explanation of the change that has come; nor to the proposal of a Federal anti-lynching law, which some have held to be an urgent necessity.

Union Springs Ala
Herald.
9-10-24

During the first six months of 1924, there were only five lynchings in the United States. This is the lowest for the first six months of any year for the forty years that the records have been kept. Last year's figures were 15; 1922, 30; and 1921, 36.

This year's five were as follows: Florida 2; Georgia 2; South Carolina 1. All were negroes. Four of these were for attacking or attempting to attack women.

TRENTON N J ADVERTISER
JULY 13. 1924

FEWER LYNCHINGS AND WHY.

An esteemed contemporary detects among shinging marks of progress the fact that lynchings are falling off in the South. In the first half of 1924 there were only five lynchings against 30 in 1922 and proportionately larger numbers in previous years. "It would be interesting to know," says this contemporary, "how far the improvement is due to a growing consciousness in the South that it has not been giving the colored people a fair deal, and that the migration of the latter is likely to continue on a large scale unless they are better treated, especially as regards schools and economic conditions."

It might also be worth while to extend the inquiry to the question as to how far the fewer lynchings are due to the smaller number of Negroes remaining in the South for the fury of the mob to wreak its mistaken vengeance upon.

N Y C WORLD
SEPTEMBER 14. 1924

DECLINE IN LYNCH LAW COMMENDED BY PRESS OF SOUTH

New Low Record for First Six Months of Year Seen as Sign of Restoration of Reason.

By LESTER A. WALTON

Lynching appears to be on the wane in the South, at least temporarily. Editors of Southern dailies are jubilant over the fact that the record for the first six months of 1924 is the lowest for the same period in forty years.

"Lynching at the Vanishing Point" and "Lynching Unpopular" are typical captions of editorials in which unconcealed and genuine satisfaction is expressed over the marked decrease.

Various reasons are assigned for the decline in popularity of what has been satirically referred to as "a great American pastime." Negro migration, the constructive work of the Inter-racial Commission and agitation over the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill are thought to be more or less attributal to the awakening of a more wholesome respect for law and order in communities disgraced by hangings and the burning of human beings at stake.

The loss of many thousands of Negro farmhands in recent months, who have deserted their native heath for a newer freedom, is said to have profoundly impressed the white South to the importance of meting out more just and humane treatment to the Negro if this dependable element is to remain. The civilizing influence exerted by courageous men and women in communities where the law had completely broken down, has been another deterrent force against mob law, and it is to this agency the thoughtful members of both races pin their hopes for the eventual blotting out of one of America's greatest evils.

Press Upholds Change.

The attitude of the Southern press on the subject may be determined from the following editorial comments:

Columbia (S. C.) Advocate: "The decrease in this blackest of all crimes is in our opinion due almost altogether to awakening public sentiment against it, and this in turn is the result in no small measure of the better understanding promoted by efforts at inter-racial co-operation. Let the good work go on until this hideous blot on our civilization is entirely extirpated. We are ashamed that South Carolina furnished one of the five mobs."

Lebanon (Tenn.) Banner—"The lynching habit is being steadily reduced both as to number of victims and area. For a period of twenty-three years, from 1900 to 1923, there were seventy-three lynchings in Tennessee. Twelve counties had two-thirds of the whole, twenty-four others had one each and sixty counties had none. The State had but two in 1922, none last year and only five in the last five years."

Macon (Ga.) Telegraph—"As to the cause of this decrease . . . the main cause is the growth of public opinion against lynching and the secondary cause is the spread and potency of inter-racial co-operation. While there have been many temptations to reap summary vengeance where the racial element was not involved, a majority of lynchings have been where it was involved. The five lynchings reported during this year were all Negroes. . . . Any one who has kept in touch with public opinion in its attitude toward lynching could not fail to be impressed with the growing and popular condemnation of it. The editors have been especially severe in their arraignment, and the ministers and other voices of the moral conscience have registered indignation. When a thing becomes unpopular, it tends to cease. While much credit is due inter-racial committees and organ- movements, the greater credit belongs to the improved moral sense of the people, which makes mob violence distasteful."

As Viewed in New Orleans.

New Orleans Item—"Announcement was recently made that fewer lynchings had occurred in the United States during the first six months of the year than in any previous year since the records have been kept. It seems that we applauded too soon. Lynchings have occurred in several States

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See Need of Law's Regard.

A divergence of opinion exists as to the probable effect on the decline of

Lynchings - 1924 II.
Discussions.

White Press (Southern).

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lynchings if the Dyer Bill were written on the statute books. Proponents of the measure aver that the moral effect upon the lyncher would prove most salutary. Others argue that a law to be enforced must be backed by public opinion; that the building up of a high regard for law and order in backward communities will do more to put an end to mob violence than any anti-lynching bill.

Inability of the constituted authorities to enforce prohibition in many of our urban and rural sections, also Herrin, Ill., and Mer Rouge, La., are cited as cases in point. It is recalled that Illinois has a law designed to discourage the reign of mob law, which was introduced some years ago by Edward Green, Chicago's first Negro member to the Legislature. However, in their present state of mind Herrin's lawless element this measure is the same as "X" in algebra an unknown quantity, and practically obsolete.

New York City World 9-14-24

Winston Salem N.C. Sentinel 7-15-24

TENNESSEE FIGURES SHOW MOB JUSTICE IS DECLINING

Nashville, Tenn., July 15—That lynching is gradually being overcome in the South is indicated in Tennessee during the last few years, according to a report on this subject made by James D. Burton, secretary for the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation.

Mob justice is shown to be on the decline both as to the number of victims and the area in which suchh crimes occur, the report sets forth. For a period of 23 years, from 1900 to 1923, 73 lynchings have been reported in Tennessee. Twelve counties had one each, and 60 counties had none, says the report.

Tennessee had five lynchings during the last five years, the report added, two in 1922, and none last year.

LYNCHING DROP OF 50 PER CENT FOR U. S.

Report to Federal Council Indicates Elimination of Mob Evil.

Church Problems Discussed.

Lynchings—"mob murder," they are called in pamphlets that are strewn about the assembly hall will be eliminated in the United States if the objects of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America are attained, according to reports and discussions on the subject presented to the session of the council at the Central Presbyterian Church Thursday. 12-6-24

Atlanta Georgian

The principal report in this connection was that of the commission on the church and race relations, which showed that up to November 1 of this year there were 13 lynchings, a drop of 50 per cent, compared with the same period for 1923, in which year there were 26 lynchings in the United States, a decrease of 50 per cent from 1922, when there were 57 lynchings.

Atlanta Ga.

The report of the commission was presented as "the story of Christianity applied to race relations." In 17 states, it was asserted, committees or commissions on race relations have been established, chiefly in the Northern States, where the influx of the negro is causing a growing problem. In the South, it was said, the commission works with the commission on inter-racial co-operation.

In this connection a paper by Bishop F. F. Reese, of the Episcopal diocese of Georgia, was read, asserting among other things:

"Inter-racial co-operation and harmony between the white and negro races can be brought about only when the churches realize the sense of Christian brotherhood toward every man, black or white. Such a realization is a slow process, an iridescent dream perhaps, but it is the business of the church to hold up and work for the realization of what the world regards as an iridescent dream."

"The negro is not like the white man in every particular. There are striking differences, physical and mental, but he is one with the white man in its essential humanity."

Problems of the churches in the matter of arousing interest were discussed in the report of the commission on evangelism and life service, and in an address by Dr. Warren H. Wilson, of the board of national missions of the Presbyterian Church. The latter sounded an alarm particularly concerning conditions in rural churches.

Atlanta Georgian 12-6-24

"After 15 years of work for the country church," said Dr. Wilson, "I am profoundly depressed by the religious weakness, futility and spiritual emptiness of many of the churches maintained by us. They have everything in them but religion. They are tremendously concerned over law enforcement. They ring with praise or blame of the educator. They have much to say about science, and all the time they are concerned with finance.

Atlanta Ga

"If the federal council can move the churches toward mercy for the poor, pity for the unfortunate, sympathy for men of all sorts, tolerance for those of another religion, and justice clothed in love for people of another race than our own, these churches will become worth while."

Evangelism was urged as the solution—evangelism defined as "the whole spiritual outlook of the church, both in the realm of the child and in the experience of men and women who have turned aside from paths of peace and virtue and need to be reclaimed by the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ."

The theme of the meeting Friday morning was "The Church and the Community," and its text:

"As the body is one and hath many members, so also is Christ."

The session opened with devotional services led by the Rev. Thomas H. Lewis, president of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The address by Dr. Wilson followed, after which came the report of the Commission on Councils of Churches in three-fourths of the cities of the country, with 48 cities maintaining councils with paid executives, one of which is Atlanta. The budget of these city councils exceeds $500,000 a year, it was reported. Five states are organized, with executive secretaries employed.

The report commended as a step in the right direction the announced decision of one denomination to have fewer and stronger churches.

"The great problem of comity, or mutual understanding in dealing with the problem of overchurching in the small community, that is becoming more pressing, can be met only by the co-ordinated effort of the state denominational bodies, especially outside the large cities," the report asserted. "The need for the practice of comity is one of the greatest reasons for having a state council of churches."

Observance in 1925 of the four hundredth anniversary of William Tyndal's printing of the Bible in English was indorsed at the opening of Friday's session.

AMERICANS KILLERS.

"We are a people given to temperance, to certain convictions," said Dr. Wilson, in his discussion of rural church conditions, "but we are also given to hate. Our nation stands before the world as a nation of murder. Our record of homicides is well known. It isn't the foreigner who does the killing, it is the old Ameircan stock, with its prejudices and its hates. In our rural communities we are up against this situation."

The temper of this council, composed of thoughtful and leading churchmen, among them some of the most powerful in the nation, was indicated by the spontaneous applause that followed Dr. Wilson's remark:

"The country church has a lot to say about science, but the less said about science the better."

There is nothing but religion that can make farming continue, said Dr. Wilson, with the remark that the farmer should know that he who raises a plant or a food animal holds trust for civilization. Farming, he said, is an austere occupation, an occupation of faith.

BERRY SCHOOL.

The Rev. M. B. Gurley, chaplain of the Berry Schools, of Rome, spoke briefly on the work of that institution, founded by Miss Martha Berry, for education of mountain boys and girls.

"The Berry School is like this council of churches," he said; "it is undenominational, but an institution linked for service."

Co-operation in evangelism in Detroit was discussed by Dr. Joseph A. Vance. Co-operation between Catholics and Protestants in Detroit is warm and effective, he said.

The Rev. Arthur H. Armstrong, executive secretary of the St. Louis Church Federation, talked of co-operation in social service in that city.

Results from religious education in Rochester through church co-operation were discussed by the Rev. Orlo J. Price, executive secretary of the Church Federation of that city.

"Competition among churches is going," said Dr. Price.

Church co-operation in Atlanta from a layman's point of view was described by M. M. Davies, Atlanta business man. Mr. Davies won the interest of the famous audience at the start by telling how he had become converted to the understanding that all denominations are "one in Christ." He said all churches are full of "provincial Christians" who do not perceive the value and need of interdenominational effort.

The Rev. C. B. Wilmer, former rector of the St. Luke Episcopal Church, of Atlanta, and now a professor at Sewanee, spoke on "The Spiritual Significance of Church Co-operation," expressing much the same sentiments.

"If the church is here merely as a post-mortem immigration society," said he, "there is no reason for our denominations to get together. But if it is here to advance the Kingdom of God on earth, then we must learn that fellowship in Christ is necessary."

With th[illegible]

dress, the audience fell to singing, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," Dr. Cadman, the president; raising the tune.

Five members of the Fisk jubilee singers, the famous organization of negro singers, sang a series of negro spirituals, that was one of the rich experiences of the meeting.

Dr. David Latshaw, representative of the international committee of the Y. M. C. A., and Mrs. Archibald Davis, of Atlanta, a member of the national board of the Y. W. C. A., spoke briefly of the work of those organizations in the line of co operation.

"We would be unable to carry out our work in many cases," commented Dr. Cadman, "without the aid of these organizations."

Bishop A. R. Clippinger, of the Church of the United Brethren, of Dayton, Ohio, was the speaker at the daily devotional service, his topic being "Loyalty to Christ" and his message an appeal for a firmer personal religion.

Evangelism and research were the principal issues discussed at Thursday afternoon's session. Dr. William Adams Brown, of New York, chairman of the council's newly created commission of research and education, explained the operations of that body, and its need in studying the underlying causes and effects of crime.

Blood Spot on the Community.

Last Friday night Ike Eastwood, a Nolensville grocer, discovered two negroes in the act of stealing parts of his automobile.

In an exchange of shots which followed Eastwood was shot and he in turn shot one of the negroes.

The victim of Eastwood's gun proved to be Samuel Smith, a boy fifteen years old.

He was taken a prisoner to the General Hospital. Nashville Tennessean

Eastwood was taken to St. Thomas Hospital, where the authorities on Monday declared him to be on the road to recovery.

Monday at midnight a masked mob entered the General Hospital, forced its way into the negro ward and seized the negro boy, carried him to the scene of his crime, hung him and then riddled his body with bullets. 12-17-24

For the mob it was the end of a perfect night.

For Nashville and Davidson county it was a challenge to take stock and decide whether the law or the mob is to prevail.

No more dastardly crime has ever been committed in this city.

The invasion of the hospital was a cowardly act in itself.

The premeditated murder of a helpless victim stigmatized the community no less than it branded the murderers with a red stain that will not wash off.

It was a reversion to jungle methods, to the rule of the beast, which the God-fearing citizens of this commonwealth will not tolerate

No act committed in this vicinity so instantly aroused its citizenship. Ringing resolutions by church and civic organizations give ample evidence of the reaction on the public mind.

But resolutions are not enough. They may salve the conscience. But they will not satisfy the demands of justice. They will not restore to Nashville that unblemished repu-

tation for law and order that she enjoyed up until midnight Monday.

The good name of this city must be restored. The bloody blot must be erased. The perpetrators of this outrage must be hunted down and brought to the bar of justice. This is the least the law-abiding people of the city can insist upon.

All over this country today the Nashville mob is the theme of the leading editorials. We as a communuity are condemned and held up to scorn for the act of a despicable group more criminal in every respect than the victim of their blood lust.

The city of Vanderbilt, of Peabody, of Ward-Belmont; the city of schools and churches; the city of homes; the city where a great religious revival is now in its last week—Nashville is plunged from its pinnacle of decency and morality to the level of the lowest form of savagery.

Then what are we to do about it? Are we to accept this verdict of moral degeneracy that the mob has written to us, or are we to rise above our shame and our humiliation and ferret out the denizens of the jungle who prowl among us and redeem ourselves in the eyes of state and of nation?

There is no choice. We have no alternative. The law of the state has been disregarded. The good name of the city has been besmirched. The manhood of every decent citizen of the community has been challenged. And we'll be men enough, please God, to meet the challenge.

ATLANTA Georgian

DEC 2 1924

Caught in the Current

—By JAMES B. NEVIN—

THERE is nothing more interesting or significant in the trend of events throughout this loved country of ours than the amazing and gratifying decrease in lynchings. According to the best available statistics, there were 86 lynchings in the United States in 1919; in 1920 there were 65; in 1921, 64; in 1922, 61. And then came a sharp decrease of 28 in 1923, and for the year 1924—nearly finished—the astonishing total of nine is the record. That is fine and may be interpreted as the reader's intelligence suggests.

WHEN the so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill was proposed in Congress, The Atlanta Georgian, among other newspapers of the South, emphatically opposed the same. The Georgian believed that lynching was peculiarly a problem to be handled by the states, free of federal interference; and that, at least, "the states should have ample and full opportunity to solve the problem themselves, before the Federal Government took it over." But that, in the event the states did not solve the problem eventually, perhaps the Federal Government might try its hand. And since it is plainly evident now that the states ARE solving the problem for themselves, there seems little or no doubt that The Georgian's position at the time cited was sound.

Journal

NOV 21 1924

Lynching is on the decline in the United States. The sign is reassuring. For years the country has been going through a black period of contempt for law. It is to be hoped that the news from the lynching districts shows the beginning of the swing toward a renewed respect for order and its expression in the laws of the land.

DEC 4 1924

Wiping Out Lynching.

(Memphis News Scimitar.)

If the record of downward revision holds good another year, there should not be a lynching in 1925. In 1919 there were 86 lynchings in the United States. There were 65 in 1920, 64 in 1921, 61 in 1922 and 28 in 1923. Thus far in 1924 there have been but nine. The Birmingham News gives a reasonable explanation of the decrease as follows:

"This reduction is due mainly to education and a better sentiment. It has been largely due, insofar as education is concerned, to the instillation of the idea that a lynching is a murder, and collective murder is no antidote for any other crime. The constant preaching of respect for law and order, the tendency of the courts to punish those guilty of participating in mobs, and to some extent expediting of trials and meting out swifter justice to those guilty of crimes, all have had their effect.

"Also in justice to the negro race, it must be said that the leaders there have been exerting themselves to instil better ideas and ideals. The crimes against women by negroes, which were the main cause of lynching, apparently have about ceased. Whether or not this cessation is due entirely to exhortations and a better conception of citizenship, or whether it is due to fear of something else, may be debatable. Certain it is that in the last year there has been a remarkable absence of these causes for inflamed public spirit and summary vengeance on the part of mobs."

Mob violence is going into the discard, and at the same time the causes of lynching have diminished, and that is one of the controling factors to the decline, but undoubtedly the main reason is an increase of respect for law and the prompt and effective work of the courts.

Durham N. C Herald

NOV 30 1924

GOVERNOR ACTS PROMPTLY.

Once more Governor Morrison nipped in the bud a disturbance that possibly might have resulted in mob violence being done a prisoner. In Craven county a Negro was arrested for driving an automobile over and fatally injuring a school girl. The crime stirred the people, and there was rumor of the possibility of an attempt to deal summary punishment to the Negro. Governor Morrison when informed of that rumor did not wait until the mob formed any lynching had been done, but he promptly ordered out a unit of the National guard to protect the prisoner.

Early in his administration, Governor Morrison promised that there would not be a lynching in this state in his administration if within his power to prevent. Every time he has heard a report of the possibility of mob violence, he has been prompt to act, and the result is that more than likely one or two lynchings have been averted thereby.

The Governor has not hesitated to call upon the entire force and authority of the state to prevent mob violence. In some cases he has been criticised because he was believed to have acted when there was no danger. But, the Governor very correctly takes the view that a stitch in time saves nine, and he has not hesitated to take the stitch. His promptness in nipping threatened mob violence is to be commended, and the state owes Governor Morrison a debt of gratitude for his determination and courage to prevent the state's name from being blackened by mob crimes. In cases of that kind he has been the right man on the job, and his successors will do well to follow his example.

MACON GA TELEGRAPH
OCTOBER 16, 1924

THE JIM DENSON ARTICLE

The South has been criticized for lynching. Now has come a criticism where the lynching was averted—a criticism, incidentally, that is the result of an unusual amount of mercy having been shown. In fact, the conclusion may well be drawn from the case in question that mercy is sometimes simply another form of cruelty. We have reference to the case of Jim Denson, who was duly and finally hung after conviction, which case is employed in the September 24th issue of The Nation for a human-interest story and somewhat of a protest.

The article is interesting and well written as a human-interest feature. It is from the pen of Sarah H. Cleghorn, known and related in Macon and a woman of fine sensibilities as well as capabilities. She is listed on the side of humanity and unusual charity, and the article in The Nation is the natural outpouring of the heart of a sympathetic woman who has been touched through contact with an unfortunate individual. Miss Cleghorn states well her convictions; and no one will rise to contend that there are not regrettable features about hangings, or hold that society always does its full duty. At the same time, considering the inevitable imperfections of human law and the administration of justice, it is essential that discussions of such be logical in terms of recognized or insisted-upon human expediencies. One of those expediencies is capital punishment. It is not a delightful affair; and society may someday dispose of such. But it has not so far, and its horrors must be accepted or endured. One cannot object to the sufferings of convicted individuals without resting his case upon an objection to capital punishment.

In her article, in The Nation, Miss Cleghorn says:

> Two or three dozen white men, said to have come from the neighborhood of Toombsboro, Denson's home, had besieged the county jail at Irwinton as soon as Jim Denson was taken back there after being sentenced to die on the 16th of June. Sheriff Player stood them off for an hour, The Telegraph said, and indeed only yielded when he fell, wounded in the foot. They then swarmed into the jail and took the prisoner. "They tied a rope around my neck," Denson said to The Telegraph reporter. "They put me in the car, the second to the last one in the line. It was a two-seated Ford, and Mr. Brown, dressed in white pants, had hold of the rope. . . . I kept smelling liquor. . . . The rope around my neck was tight. . . . I felt the knot with my hand. . . . It was a slip knot."
>
> He slipped it off, and lifting up his feet, shot himself feet first over the side of the car. He struck on his feet, and was flung on his head in a ditch. The bullets from the car went wide. This was on Monday, the 22d day of May.
>
> All that night and the next day there was a posse of deputized sheriffs hunting him, with a son-in-law of the woman he was accused of assaulting among them. All that Tuesday Jim Denson was attempting to reach the sheriff of Wilkinson County, or else the Bibb County authorities, in a hope to save his life by surrendering to them. He dared not try to surrender to any one else, for once when he had attempted it the farmer he had approached had shot at him, and he had fled on all fours to cover again.
>
> The posse, torn and panting, followed three bloodhounds which had found the boy's trail. But when the hounds came up with him, he made friends with two of them, and had them following him in friendly fashion when the barking of the third dog, which he could not tame, led the posse up.
>
> When he was manacled once more to the sheriff, Jim Denson was glad. In this green world, in the beginning of life, this young son of a golden-hearted race was glad to think that his white fellow-Americans, who had never sent him to school, who had condemned him at seventeen years of age to die after asking him to waive his legal rights to plead for his life, and who had steadily refused for three years to give him any possible chance to prove his innocence in court, would now lock him up again in a cage.
>
> As the party came into Irwinton, the reporter said, a crowd came out to meet them. The sporting spirit of the master race seemed to have been aroused, and they began a movement at once to request clemency from the Governor. As they passed the gallows which stood in the rear of the Wilkinson County jail, Jim Denson said to the reporter: "Boss, you guess I'll ever hang?"
>
> The crowd shouted, "No!"
>
> It seemed as if there was a little hope, and yet, when we remembered the two attempts to lynch him, it scarcely seemed possible that Governor Hardwick would do more than grant a reprieve to reconsider, and then "let the law take its course." A commutation of sentence would cause a great deal of anger, and editorials would point out how this very

Lynchings-1924.
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern).

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Journal
JAN 11 1924
Greensboro Ga

Though he was censured for it at the time, Hon. Hugh M. Dorsey's pamphlet on peonage and lynchings has borne good fruit, and better conditions has been the result.

Lexington, Ga
JAN 18 1924
Echo

Georgia is being congratulated on the fact that she did not lead the country in lynchings last year. We congratulate her that there were a less number of he crimes that provoke lynchings.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Let us do what hono. demands."*

What a Real Sheriff Can Do.

Mobs, as a rule do not undertake to run over a sheriff and take a prisoner from jail and lynch him if they know that the sheriff is a real man—one who is not afraid to do his duty, even though it be necessary for him to make the sacrifice of his own life.

This was demonstrated in Texas not long ago, when the sheriff told the members of the mob that faced him, that if they tried to take the prisoner away from him there "would be some new widows in that town and some new faces in hell." The mob believed what the sheriff said, and that was all there was to it.

Afterward the sheriff was quoted by the Denton (Texas) Record and Chronicle, and made comment upon what he said as follows:

It develops that Sheriff R. B. Watts of Angelina county didn't ask for either rangers or guardsmen when a negro prisoner was threatened by a mob. "When I can't handle my job, I'll step out and let somebody else take it," he told a reporter, although adding that he would cooperate with rangers or guardsmen or with "anybody that wants to enforce the law." The sheriff protected his prisoner. Three of the attempted lynchers were wounded, and the affair likely will end with the negro's plea of guilty to murder and his expiation of his crime in prison or in the chair. There are mighty few mob law outbreaks in Texas or elsewhere that could not be curbed by officers if they were like Sheriff Watts.

The man who can't handle his job as sheriff should not offer for the office in the first place, and even if he should the voters should refuse to elect him. No man of that calibre has any business with the office.

Usually there is not as much excitement among the members of a mob as there is generally supposed to be. Some few may be more ro less excited, some may "see red," but even these, if they are confronted by a man they know is willing to die to uphold the law, will take the matter under further consideration. Usually the result is that the members of the mob will begin to retire and continue their retreat until all have gone.

But it requires a real man to be a real sheriff.

Columbia S. C. Register-Sun
FEB 27 1924

He Broke Up the Mob

When a mob assembled about the Fort Smith, Ark., jail and threatened to break into it to get a prisoner, Sheriff Shaw made a speech. "Try to break down my jail," said he, "and there will be some new widows in Crawford county and some new faces in hell." Of course no self-respecting mob would stay around a rough talking person like that, so it broke up and went home.—Macon Telegraph.

In nearly ninety-nine cases out of every hundred one determined man can frustrate the plans of a mob. If the men composing the mob know that the sheriff is really determined to shoot to kill rather than permit the mob to break open the jail and lynch a prisoner, that mob is not going to be as blood-thirsty as it thought it was when it started out.

And no man who has not such determination and who will not stand by his prisoner whom he is sworn to protect against mob violence no matter what the crime with which he is charged, should be elected to the office of sheriff. True, it is not a pleasant task to face a mob, but the man ho is unwilling to do just that, if the emergency arises, should think twice before he offers for the office of sheriff; and if he feels that he may lack courage in a moment of danger and stress he should not go into the race.

Sheriffs are about as much responsible as the mobs for mob violence in our country. When the members of the mob get into action they too seldom encounter a man of the type of Sheriff Shaw. Incidentally, there is no more cowardly act than that of a mob engaged in a lynching, unless it be a masked gang of floggers. If members of the mob knew beyond a doubt that the guilt of the act would be placed upon each of them individually, and that they would have to stand trial for murder when they lynch a person, there would be fewer lynchings in the land.

"What Is a Lynching?"
Raleigh News and Observer.

Thirty-nine states are reported by the Federal council of Churches as being free from lynchings last year, and it is gratifying to know that North Carolina is credited with having none for the last two years. The report does not name the states that had lynchings, but says that four of the west-southern Central states, three of the eight Southern Atlantic states, one of the four east-south Central states and one of the west northern Central states were guilty of the crime.

In all 28 persons are reported as having been lynched, 26 of them being negroes and this is just about half of what the number was a few years ago. It is a decided improvement, and while some of the lynchings occurred in Southern states there are several Southern states with clean records besides North Carolina.

The Columbia State suggests the need of defining what is a lynching, and this is in line with the feeling of those who compiled the record. In the South when two or more persons conspire together to take the life of a human being, it is usually called a lynching, but in the North there is a tendency to call it something else. Unlawful killings of whatever nature aught always to be punished, but there is no use of painting a different picture of the South from that painted in the North for the same or similar occurrences.

The State. 4-14-24
Columbia S.C.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
News
APR 3 - 1924

GUILE FOR LYNCHING

Herbert Quick would end lynching by automatically ousting officers when lynching occurs. The cure for the mob evil, he thinks, does not lie in any federal laws, such as the anti-lynching bill that has been before congress so long. He says:

The state law should be changed so as to make any lynching, whether murderous or merely violent, the cause of removal from office of every officer of the law, sheriff, deputy, or policeman, from whose custody, actual or legal, aprisoner is taken by a mob. The sheriff should always be legally out of office the moment a prisoner is taken from him his jailer, or one of his deputies. This should be true whether he is guilty of any traceable blame or not. His prisoner is his ship, and he should do down with his ship.

Let the states pass such laws and every friend of the officer will be a worker against the lynching. There will be no more of those many cases in which the officers make a gecture of resistance and then succumb to a show of force. The officer will resist earnestly. We shall see, I should hope, the officers prepared to mow down the mob with machine gun fire to protect his charge, no matter how guilty the latter may be, or how aggravated a crime. We shall then see, I hope, officers of the law spraying the gas used in warfare on threatening mobs. We shall see the earnestness of self-protection exhibited by the officers of the law as against the earnestness of ferocity on the part of the mob.

Any severity is justifiable against mobs of lynchers; for their attack is not on the prisoner alone, but against law and order, the safeguards of society itself.

Let the successful mob automatically "fire" the officers from their positions.

Cowardly, Brutal and Lawless.

The State does not know, of course, who committed the crime which is conceded to have been committed near Norway, Orangeburg County, nor what may be the motives for it advanced by the criminals or their sympathizers. But an outrageous and cowardly act has been committed by a party of men against the law, against the peace and dignity of the state of South Carolina, and every ounce of strength that is possessed by the machinery of the law" for its vindication should be employed to fix the responsibility.

Self-delegated regulators who seize persons in their beds, in the night, and beat them, are as active menaces to civilization as lynchers. And they almost always operate with some mean personal motive. Aside from the outrage against the law, there is something peculiarly cowardly in a squad of men visiting the home of a woman in the absence of her husband, taking her from bed, carrying her off and beating her. Cowardly and brutal as well as criminal, and we trust the Norway community will succeed in having justice done.

NASHVILLE TENN. AGRICULTURIST
MARCH 1, 1924

Only Twenty-Eight Lynchings Last Year

A gratifying report is that made by the Commission of Inter-racial Cooperation to the effect that the number of lynchings last year was the smallest in forty years. Only 28 lynchings were reported last year. That "only" may sound like irony, but when it is remembered that the number ran up to 252 in 1892

ALBANY, GA HERALD

FEB 28 1924

STOPPING THE MOB.

A Texas mob stormed a jail late yesterday in an unsuccessful attempt to get possession of a negro prisoner charged with shooting a white man. It had been reported that the officers defending the jail would make "only passive resistance"—in other words, would permit themselves to be overpowered. But the officers proved that they were made of sterner stuff when they opened fire on the attackers, four of whom were wounded. As the names of the wounded are given in dispatches, it should be an easy matter for the grand jury to indict them and for the prosecuting attorney to present evidence of their participation in the attempted lynching. The accused man was in the hands of the law, and there was no reason for apprehension that he would not be brought to trial in due season, and convicted if shown to be guilty. The mob was wholly in the wrong, and the officers were but performing their duty when they opened fire.

A little more starch in the backbones of officers generally would soon be effective in reducing the number of lynchings, which are but assaults on Justice and which inevitably weaken that law before which all men are supposed to be equal. There would be fewer mobs if mobs were taught more generally to understand that the law compels respect where respect is not freely given.

The Mob Mind

By H. Addington Bruce.

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Deserving of serious consideration is Everettt Martin's recent insistence that whenever men act in mobs—as in lynchings, strike outbreaks destructive of life and property and masked attacks upon unpopular individuals—it is because they are dominated by a sentiment of inferiority.

They may protest as much as they please the loftiness of the motives actuating their savage behavior. These alleged motives, according to Everett Martin, are but cloaks for deeper impulses of a distinctly anti-social sort, set free by the inferiority sentiment and for the moment silencing the appeal to reason. More fully:

"Whenever the crowd mind takes possession of a group of men, there is an all or none type of reaction, in which all sensible discrimination and third alternatives are brushed aside and everything is just 'utterly utter'—wholly good or wholly bad. . . .

"Always certain repressed impulses find, through what I call justification mechanisms, an escape from social control. Always there is an egomania which is at bottom a protests against a feeling of inferiority."

Or, as a psychiatrist would put it, the mob mind is essentially the mind of a paranoiac. Mr. Martin does not hesitate to draw a close parallel between the mental processes of mobs and the mental processes of an individual afflicted with the delusions of paranoia.

"The crowd likewise has its fixed ideas, its propaganda, its dogma, its creed. It will not permit these ideas to be changed or modified by fact. . . . The crowd's truth is always a priori truth, any modification of which is regarded as an act of disloyalty to the group."

This is hardly acceptable doctrine to any one who has been a participant in mob activities. But let such an one recall his feelings after he has ceased to be a member of a mob, and, if he is not completely callous, it is safe to say that he will then have found himself in a state of wonder and disgust at the fury that possessed him.

Let him be candid with himself and it also is safe to say he will perceive that there was in him some lack which favored his responding unthinkingly to the suggestions of the mob leaders. That lack was not simply a lack in emotional control. It was a lack in the cultural development which serves to protect modern man against the bitter inner conflicts to which any sentiment of inferiority may give rise.

By no means is it a mere coincidence that "the more men find themselves lacking in those qualities to which they defer or regard as marks of superiority," the likelier they are to become members of mobs. It is not that the highly cultured are better men to begin with than the uncultured or the men of little culture It is that culture helps to save men from the sting of inferiority.

To lessen the occurrences of mob outrages, consequently, the wider diffusion of culture is a prime necessity. That is a conclusion plainly indicated by such an analysis as Everett Martin's study of the mob mind.

MAR 2 C 1924

SAVANNAH GA. NEWS

TO CHECK LYNCHING

It has been suggested that one of the best ways to stop lynching, short of elimination of crime, is to provide by law that any officer from whose custody a prisoner is taken by a mob shall automatically go out of office and be ineligible for re-election. It is accepted as true that many officers of the law have surrendered prisoners to mobs when they could have saved them; they preferred to give up to prisoners rather than to put up a fight in which somebody might have been hurt. Still, it remains that most officers of the law could save their prisoners from mobs and when they fail to do so they fail to do their duty. No officer who permits a mob to take a prisoner from him so long as he is able to offer resistance is fit to hold office; he should be put out of office and be ineligible to hold office thereafter.

APR 9 - 1924

A Dark Record Darkened

A standing complaint against mobs is that they lack a sense of discrimination. With their blood whipped to fury, men can not reason. The consequence is that things are often done in a time of stress that never would be thought of in calmer moments.

The lynching of a 15-year-old boy by a Georgia mob a few days ago illustrates the point. The young negro was accused of shooting an officer, who surprised him in the act of stealing. The crime was one that would have called for severe punishment, but it is almost incredible that a crowd of mature men could so lose themselves to reason and a sense of justice as to take out and murder an individual who was scarcely more than a child in years.

This rash act darkens the already black record of Georgia, a State which usually is classed as the banner State among those where lynchings are prevalent. It is an act for which the sane and responsible people of Georgia need to be ashamed.

The lynching record was much improved last year in nearly all the States, so much so that the sentiment for the Dyer Federal anti-lynching bill has been more or less quiescent lately. It would be unfortunate if such events as this in one State should revive that issue.

MAR 7 1924

MOBS.

The sacredness of the privileges of a mob, self-sufficient as they may have been in many cases, is not a matter of theory but practice. In many hundred cases mob law has manifested itself and the mob has ruthlessly taken advantage of cowardice or carelessness in an effort to carry out their own designs, usually those which are contrary to law and are unjustified in any consideration of the matter.

The mob that claims immunity from the effect of its acts usually gets it. The claim is manifested in the immunity that is given the mob and the utterly futile effects of any effort to administer punishment for any deed that may have been committed during the hours of derangement, for usually there is a mental abberation that engenders the spirit of ruthlessness and lawlessness that results. Yet the time has come when mobs are seeing different results.

An instance is presented from Texas, following others in several sections of the county, one of which was in Savannah. The mob was informed that there would be only nominal but totally ineffectual resistance should they decide to administer punishment to men, accused of crime. They were in jail and the mob got started and went to get them for the purpose of slaying them without any semblance of trial or justification. They got there and found that they had been misinformed. The officers told them very plainly that they needn't bother to start anything and their guns were in their hands and loaded. The mob didn't believe the statement and started to storm the jail. A hail of bullets over the crowd was the first warning but it went unheeded. The next was a volley of shots that went straight into the mob itself. It wounded four at the first volley. It took no more to effectually stop the procession and those that had started were stopped in their tracks and they didn't occupy those tracks for long.

All that was necessary was determination and courage and when they found this they resisted because they realized that it would jeopardize their lives and might even then not prove successful. A few more instances of this kind and the mob will be more wary.

COLUMBIA, S. C., State

MAR 2 4 1924

When Is a Lynching Not a Lynching?

Doubtless many another observer, in reading the annual reports from Tuskegee and various interracial relations committees, purporting to set out the record of the year in respect of lynching in the United States, has remarked a defect which to The State has seemed to impair more than a little the value of the findings.

Such reports could be weighed and interpreted far more accurately if they included a clear statement of the working definition of lynching used by the compilers. That the data are assembled and classified with care and good faith is not questioned. But a tendency, perhaps unconscious, has been evident, in the opinion of some students, to set down an unlawful taking of human life by two or more persons as a lynching, if it occur in the South, more especially if the victim be a negro; while a similar homicide North or West is accounted a crime of other quality and significance, almost certainly a crime of other verbal description. It is of common knowledge that many Northern people draw a line somewhere, somehow, between a lynching and a riot. Sometimes Southern readers suspect the line they draw is the Mason and Dixon line! Lynchings at Herrin? Oh, no, the fatalities there were "unfortunate casualties of economic maladjustment."

Lynchings — 1924.
Discussions.

White Press. (Southern).

1587

commutation would prove an encouragement to lynching; and read in quarters where moonshine was plenty, these editorials would be enough to keep the old sport alive. And though people, in the first divine enjoyment of letting themselves be human, honestly and even warmly desire to befriend prisoners, those of us who have ever tried to mobilize their emotions know well how soon the undertow of caution runs back through it. They feel the "risk" of setting their names to a petition for mercy, and are not sharply aware of the risk they take in refusing to do so. If a man is accused of a horrifying-enough crime, people tend to think he must be guilty.

On the 14th of June, two years ago, I sent a night letter to Jim Denson, hoping against hope. On the 15th, I suppose, he was taken back to Irwinton to be banged. On the 16th he was hanged.

The whole point involved is whether or not Denson was guilty. The other details may make good magazine reading but are not otherwise of first importance.

Miss Cleghorn rests her case somewhat upon the fact that the victim did not confront the prisoner in the court, but gave her testimony in an adjoining room. Much ado may be made about this technicality; yet matters can be so thoroughly taken care of in such cases that the embarrassment involved in an actual facing of two people at a certain spot at a given time is not at all essential to justice. The most telling excuse for lynching has been that court justice involves bringing the victim into the court-room. The Denson case may have proved that the matter can be fully and justly taken care of in another way in the interest of true justice. But it also reveals that a technicality can delay justice for several years, some will hold.

There are those who will refuse to understand that these are unusual matters and will not be dealt with fully according to a cut-and-dried process that admits of the enthroning of every possible technicality that a shrewd lawyer can invent.

Not that one would defend all matters as they exist; the regret is that they ever have to be dealt with at all. But the law must rest to some extent or ultimately upon public opinion, and in the South public opinion unyieldingly demands and inevitably secures some things that are so hard for a few folks in other sections sometimes to understand in terms of justice and wisdom.

Miss Cleghorn forgot to mention that for two years this offender had at his earnest, active service one of the most able and energetic criminal lawyers in the South. It was widely agreed that when the late Hon. John Cooper could not free a defendant, there was no hope for him on this side of the great Judgment Bar. We know of no black man who would not have trusted his fate and future to the hands of that powerfully energetic and jury-convincing pleader for the rights of the erring individual and for a justice tempered with mercy to such an extent that the element of justice itself was often lost.

For two years, Jim Denson had the benefit of the Cooper genius; and execution was delayed so long that many people lost touch with the crime and saw only the tragedy of the impending gallows—the suffering of the criminal. The Denson case became so unique, Jim became "good copy" in the hands of the reporters; the attention of the State was focused in his direction. The charge of "trial by newspaper" must have had place at least in the minds of members of the legal profession, as result of the "sob stuff" that began to flow out of a highly unusual situation. But Georgia proved she would give a chance even to a Negro convicted of the worst crime.

Men in office are often faced with dilemma. In taking action, they are "damned if they do and damned if they don't." Such seems to be true of a section also as regards lynching.

The law is on the statute books. Jim Denson was running from the law. If he had been a white man, the dogs would have followed him just the same, only the white man would not have known so well how to make friends with a hound dog. Society employs sheriffs and deputies to chase escaped convicts. If this be wrong, then that much expense can be saved through an economic adjustment and a diminution of personnel.

The fact that some individual farmer fired on Denson when he issued from the woods in his direction is not strange.

As to society's responsibility as to educating and preparing for life the colored people among us as well as the white, The Telegraph has often fought for an increasing assumption of the burden. The fact that New England was so active in the slave trade that in many Southern communities we have nearly as many or even more Negroes than Whites is beside the point; each and every child must be given at least the rudiments of an education. The expense is worth while.

But Jim Denson knew enough to understand the consequences of his deed should he be caught. The fact is that, like other criminals, he so planned his crime as to think he could escape detection and punishment. If he was innocent, his fate was no fault of a lack of investigation; all kinds of efforts were made to establish his innocence, although the most hopeful ones were based on technicality.

Really, the Denson case should be held up and pointed to as proof that a black man can secure legal justice in this State. In fact, a prominent local former judge and Congressman tells us that all during his years on the bench, the Negro defendant was given the full benefit of the courts, and that there are living today in this city and State Negroes who killed white men and were not hung, whereas there have been white men executed in Georgia for killing Negroes.

A Lynching Near Nashville.

After thirty years without such an incident in or nearby, the city of Nashville has been called upon to face the shame of a lynching and to endure the just condemnation of the nation. A Negro boy who, when caught stealing, shot the white man who caught him, was himself wounded and taken to the city hospital, being chained to his cot that he might be held for trial when recovered from his wounds. A mob from the vicinity of the crime —some ten miles in the country—entered the hospital in the night, cut the telephone wires, overpowered the attendants, removed the boy and hanged him, afterward filling the body with shot. It was an inexcusable, despicable act. The whole city was aroused, public sentiment in condemnation of the crime being vigorously expressed and a fund of $5,000 promptly raised as a reward for the conviction of members of the mob, in addition to a reward offered by the state. All of that is excellent as an illustration of the dominant sentiment. Unfortunately, however, there is thus far little evidence that officials are making very active effort to bring the criminals to justice, and Nashville seems destined to be known as a city where both city and county officials are altogether too indifferent about the enforcement of law. It is a disgraceful situation.

Kristian. N.C.
Press
11-19-24

REDUCTION IN LYNCHING ENCOURAGING.

The 1924 lynching record to date is most encouraging. There have been only nine outbreaks of mob violence in the country which resulted in the death of the victim. This is less than one-third the number slain in 1923, and the record of that year was less than half of what it was the preceding year.

This showing is attributed largely to the educational campaigns that have been going on and to the efforts of interracial organizations looking to a better understanding. These have naturally eliminated much of the prejudice that has existed and that has fired mobs to unseemly action in the past.

Another contributing factor which has come about as a result of education and advocacy on the part of those who have been interested in better racial relationships, is the fact that the negroes have cooperated with the authorities instead of shielding the criminal element among them.

The splendid showing for this year but shows the possibility of eliminating mob rule and it should forever put to sleep the attempts that are made periodically in Congress by South haters to enact anti-lynching laws and thereby usurp the police power of the individual states.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. Times
DEC 20 1924

TEXAS AND TENNESSEE MOBS.

Commenting on the recent murder of a 15-year-old negro boy by a Nashville mob, the Houston (Tex.) Post-Dispatch says: "Tennessee may well be ashamed of the blot that these reckless and inhumane citizens have placed upon her escutcheon. It can be obliterated only by the prompt punishment of every member of the guilty party."

There can be no gainsaying a single word or syllable of our Texas contemporary's indictment. What it says is in all respects true and ought to be sternly impressed upon the hearts and consciences of every man, woman and child of this commonwealth. It is a blot of so sinister character that it challenges our Christian civilization and holds before our eyes a picture of typical savagery taken in our own midst. There is this, however, to be said to our Texas neighbor—at least our mobocrats did not open their proceedings with prayer, as is the habit of the Texas lynchers when they conclude to shed a bit of negro blood for the "glory of God and the good of the order." At least our mob didn't mingle hypocrisy with their blood lust and, so far as we know, no preacher led the proceedings. Our mob seemed to have sensed the cowardly and brutal quality of what it was about to do, because each of its members wore a mask. The fact that the boy was taken from a hospital instead of a jail doesn't add anything particularly to the enormity of the crime, for, fortunately perhaps, none of the hospital nurses or attaches dared to interfere and so escaped without hurt.

We are hoping that the Nashville community will soon be showing another difference between the Tennessee and the Texas mob, by pursuing the matter, actually and not merely by word of mouth and in the newspapers, until some or all of these assassins have been duly punished for their crime. If that shall happen, it will mark another so wide a difference in the method of handling mobs in Tennessee and Texas as that our Houston contemporary will, we are sure, be gracious enough to tell its Texas readers about it with copious and strongly expressed adjurations to them that they go and do likewise in dealing with their masked murderers.

Lynching Problem Being Solved.

Law abiding citizens throughout the country will be heartened by the figures on lynchings for 1924 compiled at Tuskegee Institute. These figures show that in the whole of the United States during the year just ended there were only 16 lynchings. Commercial Appeal 2-3-25 Memphis Tenn.

—less than the 33 instances of mob violence in 1923 and 41 less than the 57 recorded during 1922. As compared with the hundreds who annually fell victims to mob outbreaks some years ago the figures for the year just closed show very clearly that public sentiment, backing up law enforcement, is operating to bring about the solution of a most vexing problem.

The best people in the south will be particularly pleased with the great reduction in lynchings, because, for some reason, lynchings are regarded as an evil of the southern states, despite the fact that the mob spirit when once aroused in other sections is much more bloodthirsty than it is in the south. We have not the slightest doubt that if the states of the north, east and west had the same provocatives to mob violence as the south the number of lynchings there would be more than they are here. But, since the south is blamed for lynchings, the southern people will be glad to know that the evil is being eliminated.

The fact that the country is solving the lynching problem without the aid of those fanatics in Congress who would give the federal government authority over the states in the handling of a purely state problem is referred to the saner fanatics for careful and sober consideration. We would suggest to those misguided zealots a thorough study of the figures showing that 37 attempted lynchings in the southern states were prevented by the vigilance of the law enforcing authorities. And we would ask the self same zealots their opinion as to how many of those 37 attempts would have been successful under federal supervision.

Even the most biased of the federal anti-lynching law supporters should be convinced of their folly by facts that can neither be questioned nor evaded. Had the iniquitous Dyer bill been enacted into law it would have been an encouragement rather than a deterrent to lynchings in that it would have increased the number of crimes that are the chief cause of lynchings. The class of ignorant criminals, who commit the offense for which lynching has been the penalty, would have been encouraged to that particular crime through a mistaken idea that the Dyer bill, or some similar measure, afforded them federal protection.

While the nation is justified in taking encouragement from the fact that 16 lynchings last year established a new low record, the fact yet remains that there were 16 too many. It is possible that the figures may fluctuate back and forth for a few more years because the problem of lynching is not fully solved as yet. But it is on its way to a solution. Public officials, newspapers and leaders in civic activities are united in their purpose to eliminate mob violence from the body politic. It is their influence behind the law enforcing officers that has armed those officers to the discharge of their duties. Public opinion is being lined up solidly behind those who are laboring for the supremacy of the law and that opinion in time will make mob violence a thing unknown in this country.

If the busybodies and meddlers in Congress will keep their hands off, the people of the sovereign states of this union will solve the problem of lynchings and mob violence.

FIRST LYNCHING IN STATE THIS YEAR

The lynching of Harry Shelton at Scooba Friday night is the first lynching in Mississippi this year, unofficial statistics show. In Jackson it is believed that this is the first lynching in over a year.

Reports issued by Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., several weeks ago showed Mississippi had had no lynchings this year and that the number of lynchings in the United States that year had fallen to marks unheard of before. These reports are accepted by the Federal government.

JACKSON, MISS., NEWS
JULY 19, 1924.

NEGRO LYNCHED, BODY RIDDLED BY MOB IN KEMPER

Harry Shelton Attacked Woman, Said; Is First Lynching This Year

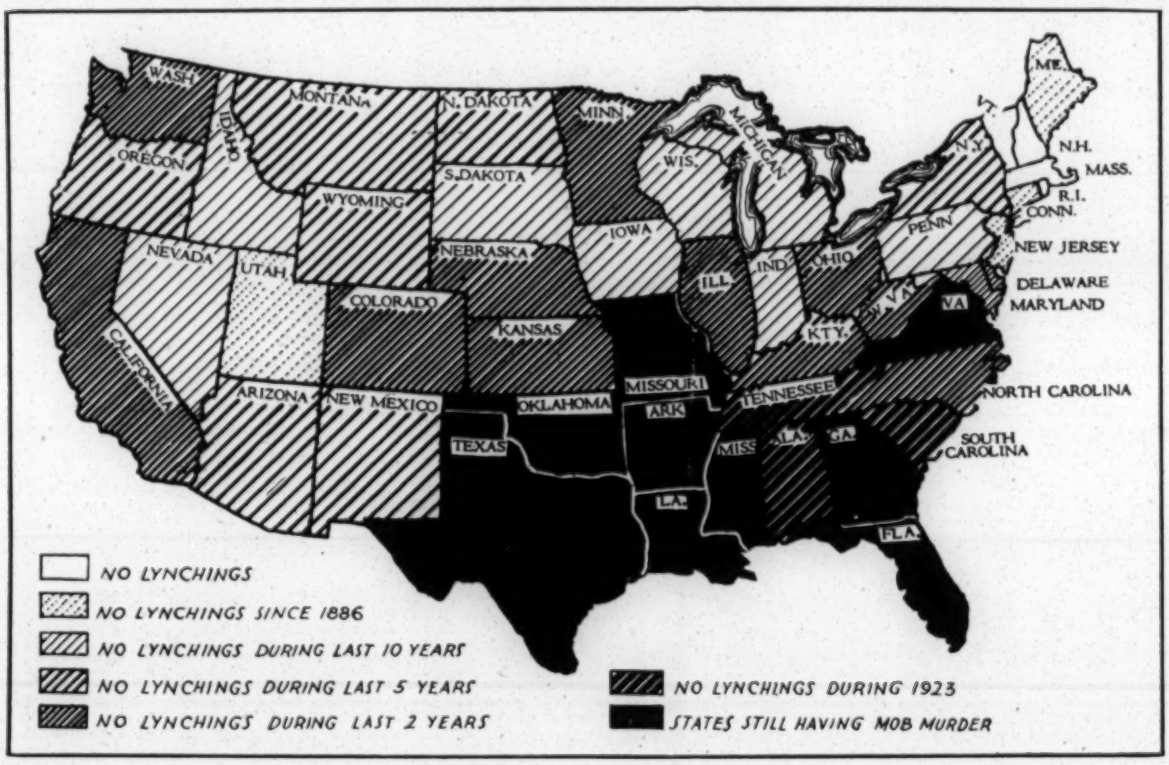
MERIDIAN, July 19—Harry Shelton, negro, was taken from the jail at Scooba, near here, Friday night by about 35 unknown men and carried about four miles toward Dekalb and lynched. The killing, carried out by hanging the negro from a tree limb and riddling his body with bullets, was said to be due to an attempt by the negro to assault a white woman living at Electric Mills, near Scooba, a week ago.

Literary Digest Apr. 5, 1924

RELIGION-AND-SOCIAL-SERVICE

THE LYNCHING ROLL OF HONOR

A SILVER LINING to the black record of lynching is found in the fact that mob murder occurred last year in only nine States and that the number—twenty-eight—is the lowest since accurate records have been kept. Of the victims, twenty-six were negroes, two of them women. The next lowest record was thirty-eight, in 1917, and the highest was 253, in 1892, when there were lynchings in thirty-three States. "The country notes the improvement with deep approval and satisfaction," says the Dayton *Journal*, observing that "the suggestion to the nine States which still tolerate this crime is obvious."



The roll of honor—the second to be issued by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches—contains the names of thirty-nine States which had no lynchings in 1923. Places on the roll were earned during last year by South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. It is the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept, we are told, that South Carolina and Alabama have been free from the crime.

The roll of honor is as follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.	4
Additional States which have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah....	4
Additional States that have no record of a lynching during the last ten years: Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin.....	10
Additional States which have no record of lynchings in the last five years: Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota.....	7
Additional States which have no record of a lynching the last two years: Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota.....	11
Additional States which have no record of a lynching during 1923: South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee.....	3
Total States free of lynching in 1923.....	39
Total States still having mob murder.....	9

To many it will probably be surprizing that only four States in the Union have been free from the national disgrace. The figures are based on records kept by Prof. Monroe N. Work, at Tuskegee Institute, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and it is said that they have been carefully checked against error.

Several reasons are given for the decrease in mob murders. According to the Commission on the Church and Race Relations, whose report is widely published and commented on,

"The campaign for interracial cooperation, which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built upon faith that Christians will join in a sound constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America; that the principles of Jesus are sufficient to meet all the critical situations that confront us or that may arise, and that ways and means will be supplied for enlisting the forces of the churches and communities.

"Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynching and are becoming aroused to the menace of it. The migration of negroes has aroused leading citizens also to inquire into the causes, and lynching has been given as one.

"Tremendous educational campaigns have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches, the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, the Women's Council, Methodist Episcopal Church South; other groups of Southern churchwomen, by the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People and by other organizations.

"The threat of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill by the United States Congress caused citizens and officials in many States to take means to stop lynchings. A similar bill has been introduced in the present Congress.

"Several States have passed stringent anti-lynching laws. In some of these laws the family of the victim is given the right to sue the county in which the crime occurs. The widow of a negro lynched in South Carolina obtained a verdict of $2,000 under such a law. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing lynchings, as public opinion demands it.

"Lynching will cease entirely when public opinion will no longer tolerate mob murder, because the great body of Christian people regard those who participate in mobs as criminals."

And it is not until this form of violence is entirely stamped out, says the Washington *Post*, that "the forces that are working against it will be warranted in lessening effort." Lynching is not a sectional vice, the New York *Evening World* reminds us, "for, in the old days, in the Western country, horse and cattle thieves dangling from ropes in the forest were commonplaces." Nor is the habit due to an inherent depravity in the American people. It "came from the days of pioneering, when society, inadequately organized, was forced to take the law into its own hands."

"And it is significant too that public sentiment has been aroused, not because of the isolated instances of lynching in Southern States, but because of the violence of mobs bent on

seethings and impending eruptions because of suppressed convictions.

"The Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., has come into the limelight because of certain personalities. A prominent past candidate for national honors seems to feel upon him the mantle of some ancient worthy to declare some teachings of modern science heretical. He is listened to, but is not followed by many. . . . Yet, by reason of a witchery of speech, which has favored him at other times, his agitations are disconcerting and at times seem portentous.

"There are others, similar in unction, but less gifted with oratory, who seem to think it needful to hunt out heretics and steady the ark of the covenant. We are setting nothing down here in the spirit of scorn or of sarcasm, nor do we profess we have much wisdom, but we have had opportunities for seeing parts of the Presbyterian Church in action in the West, the Northwest and the Middle West, and have gathered some gleanings of the problems of administration in this great church while sitting beneath the eaves of its headquarters for several years, and we are very far from thinking that this church is in any immediate danger of breaking up or of going to pieces over present theological controversies."

In the Congregationalist churches there is little likelihood of schism, we are told, for each is a separatist unto itself. "No church is coerced; no authority is imposed upon it; it has nothing to break off from unless it be from a fellowship and a helpfulness, the appeals of which come only in the terms of advice, exhortation and persuasion." In theory the Baptist churches are as independent as the Congregational churches, but there is a "tendency, constantly outcropping, on the part of groups to impose a creed and require conformity in belief and practise."

"Probably the Baptists have been in the greatest danger of rupture of any body of Christians in the country. It may be a bit premature to say that that danger is past, yet there are many indications that neither side really desires separation, and that both are seriously striving to find the ways of compromise, of harmony and of fair play. As in the case of all denominations, the Baptists are not to be judged by the utterances of a few who may speak louder or more often or with greater effectiveness than others."

Conditions among the Disciples are found to be similar to those among the Baptists, but "neither of these bodies of Christians gives the observer occasion for alarm. Both are in a condition of unrest and uncertainty because in process of undergoing far-reaching changes in policies, accompanied with no little experimentation." The smaller churches are naturally more homogeneous than the larger, we are told, as the tendency is for them to lose to the larger denominations those who are on the outer edge of the denominational convictions and contentions. So the entire church situation "is far from discouraging; indeed, it is decidedly reassuring. The forces which make for cohesion and combination seem much stronger than those which threaten division and separation. There is an increasing, strong conviction, found in all communions, that in essentials Christians are already nearly one." Other reasons make division doubtful. Men do not like to give up the "ancestral stuff" and go off to set up housekeeping anew and alone. None of us is quite at home with change. All of us want to "play safe"; we fear to take a step which may be irrevocable, and Christians are not less cautious than others. "There is a natural conservatism in all men, which increases with age, and which protects them from hazardous and fatal steps." But if an appeal should be given, this reason should contain it:

"Jesus Christ prayed for unity. He never prayed for division, schism, or disunion. He had among his twelve apostles persons of as great differences as have been among his followers at any time since. He dealt charitably with Samaritans, Syro-Phœnicians, Romans and Greeks as well as with Galileans and Judeans. He was not intolerant. It is impossible to believe that His followers, and especially those followers who pride themselves upon following Him closely, will say as their final word, 'Anathema,' to their brethren, and will disfellowship them, and will split the household of faith."

THE WHITE RACE'S RESPONSIBILITY

"THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN" has become an obnoxious phrase to many in its interpretation, implying not only a racial superiority, which is denied, but the right to impose on others whatever the white man sees fit of his methods, manners, customs, his tools and his letters. But in a day when the world is still halting between courage and despair, when understanding and sympathetic knowledge of other people is of primary importance, when we are discovering how intimately all nations and races are involved in a common humanity, the burden is very real and carries a very real responsibility, points out *The Commercial and Financial Chronicle* (New York). Two thousand years ago the white man became the possessor of Christianity. He gave it the freest acceptance. In his hands it developed its form and began to be applied in every human relation. Communities and individuals accepted it in shaping their institutions, writing their laws and molding their character. "Christian civilization is the result and is the distinctive creation of the white race," and "they are now responsible for its right expansion and development, and also for its communication to other races, and, as far as possible, convincing them of its character and priceless value." Christian civilization may change its form and adapt itself to varying needs, we are told; but in its essential character and special message of God to men it will never be superseded. Believing, then, that we are the possessors of the true religion and the highest form of civilization yet produced, our obligation as trustees for the world is clear. Continues *The Chronicle:*

"Whatever may be the exclusiveness of a man's business, or the particularity of his views, he can not disclaim the responsibility of his race, or when in his Internationalism and his broad conception of human brotherhood he is moved to say: 'Why should we disturb other people about their ways? For aught we know they may be good enough for them; in any case they are their own, even their religion; and we have more than we can do to live up to our own'; we need to consider our position as trustees of a most important inheritance. We can not refuse it; we can not transfer it to others. A trustee's responsibility is in its ultimate relations untransferable. It is transmitted as the achievement of the progenitors of the race and the nation. Christian civilization is thus an appurtenance of the race; and the United States, in common with the leading nations of Europe, is by inheritance a Christian nation in its institutions and its structure. However justly it shares the shame of Europe for the breakdown of its civilization to-day, and the failure of Christianity to prevent war or to arrest its ruthless conduct, it can not be divorced from the race or the nations to which it has been committed and united. To attempt to overthrow the civilization, to repudiate the responsibility for it, or to deny its history, whatever theory of society and of government, or whatever form of faith or denial of all faith, a man may individually adopt, is mistaken and unintelligent, and, so far as men of other races are concerned, misleading and destructive. It tends to the undoing of the trust which every race and State holds, and which is one of the most sacred committed to man."

If we accept this trust, we are told, it can not but help lead to recognition of other men's responsibility and to a generous appreciation of all that is inherently good in their beliefs and ways. We have learned that to meet our trust we need help from all who can give it, and that, in turn, the lower in scale of advancement other peoples may appear to be, the greater their need of our help. So,

"If this view is taken, and this spirit prevails, race antagonism will fade, and the enmity and distrust of men of different speech will give place to the normal give-and-take of wholesome intercourse. The more widely the good in any form is sought, the more will a common conception of right and a common standard of character prevail. Diverse men will not seem so hopelessly apart, or the immigrant who comes from afar so unintelligibly alien. We will appreciate him, and what he bears as his peculiar trust, in proportion as we feel responsibility for our own—as something to be shared, no less than to be preserved."

murder in the northern city where Lincoln sleeps, in the city of Chicago where Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency, in East St. Louis and elsewhere in the North—where racial hate was the motive. The difference between the Southern and our Northern mobs have been that in the South they have centered usually on a single culprit, while in the North the mob has struck indiscriminately at a race.

"And it is Northern more than Southern mobs that have shocked the nation into a realization that lynching a man means lynching the law—and that civilization can not exist where law is lynched."

The situation was becoming so dangerous, remarks the Columbus *Evening Dispatch*, that vigorous efforts to combat it were inaugurated through press, pulpit and law-making agencies. If we had forgotten history previous to 1923, we might think that these efforts had been unsuccessful:

"But when we compare the 28 victims of 1923 with the 253 of 30 years ago, we realize that there has been a tremendous improvement. The States entirely free of lynching in 1892 numbered only 15; last year there were 39 States on this roll of honor. Or, to take it from the other side, in 1892, 33 States were disgraced by lynchings; in 1923, only 9 States.

"We have done far more than to make a good beginning. At the present rate of progress, the time will soon come when any case of lynching that does occur will rightly be regarded as merely sporadic, and not indicative of any deep-seated criminal tendency, beyond the power of control."

The mere recital of the figures illustrates to the Manchester *Union* "how the realm of Judge Lynch has contracted; how one-time frontier States have come to legal procedure in place of vigilante rule; how the mob atrocities are now practically confined to territory in which racial animosity still unhappily overcomes respect for law." But a study of the figures suggests to the New York *Evening Sun* that other excitants besides race hatred and mob impulse provoke lynching, and we have here some new and interesting observations:

"Three of the upward jumps, those of 1892, 1908 and 1919, occurred in Presidential years or, in the last case, in time of high political feeling. The hatred of one kind of man for another has for some national politicians a value quite distinct from its logical merits. The figures suggest that a good many men have swung, first and last, because of campaign agitation and oratory.

"The well-being of the people would appear from the figures to have something of an influence on their susceptibility to the lynching fever. The hard times of 1903 and 1908 coincided with rises in the annual total of victims. When times are hard white man and negro oftener find themselves rivals in seeking work. Where lynching is done on others than negroes the same increase of rivalry between other antagonistic races tends to raise the frequency of mob murders.

"The figures for 1923 mark a year in which the South, where the majority of lynchings—tho by no means all—occur, enjoyed rare prosperity and escaped serious political clashes. Its happy state may partly account for the rarity of lynching. But there are more enduring influences at work as well.

"Education in the South, particularly in some of the States of the Atlantic border, now breeds in millions of minds the anti-lynching conscience that from the start prevailed among the highly educated class. Education of the negroes themselves has doubtless helped safeguard them. Above all, the migration of the negroes from the areas where they found themselves least welcome has caused white neighbors to regret or to dread the departure of useful workers. These influences have permanent powers to assure the negro and in general the victims of race antagonism against any return of the lynching as it raged in 1892."

OF SONG AND PRAYER

By Marion Couthouy Smith

"Those who pray seldom sing."
—*From a recent poem.*

They seldom sing who have no will to pray.
—The rose is curved so delicately right,
The symbol of all love and all delight,
The Hand that framed it cannot go astray;
Nor can the Heart that planned it lose the way
Of tenderness and power. God will not slight
A flower of song uplifted to His sight;
And who without Him can be wise or gay?

Their singing goes no further than the lip
Who seek no wider beauty. Shall the soul
Rest only in its own song's ecstasy,
And scorn an infinite companionship?
They will love best who touch the highest goal,
And find the secret source of minstrelsy.
—*The Catholic World (New York).*

NO PROTESTANT SPLIT

DESPITE VEXATIOUS QUARRELS AND BLUSTER in certain quarters, there will be no rift in the Protestant Church, says an observer who bases his hope on what appears to him to be a general trend toward unity and co-operation in all fields of human endeavor. We have heard much of impending splits in several folds, of one party's threats to drive another out; but it is not likely, we are told now, that men who are combining in all other interests and activities will pull apart in religion. The same people who are being swept on strong social currents toward fellowship and cooperation in everything else will not split their churches asunder and break up into mere factions. In fact, the churches and denominations themselves are said to be tending toward unity rather than to further division. The preacher who advocates division does not always speak for the pew. This theory, goes on a writer in *The Christian Work* (Undenominational), can be affirmed with confidence even at a time when the churches are threatened with division over Modernism and Fundamentalism. The real movement in each great Christian organization, we are told, is toward unity in two directions: First, a unity within, exprest in greater compactness, simplification of parts and consolidation of agencies, and, second, a unity without, manifest in conferences, leagues, councils and a host of interallied bodies more efficient than ever before. Few people are concerned about divisive issues; the mass of Christians "are more concerned about efficiency, and genuineness, and the practical application of the principles of Jesus to modern life than they are about the Virgin Birth or the physical return of Jesus to the earth." The heart of the Church is busying itself with virility and vitality, not with dogma, and "those who think that dogma is the main thing will come to an awakening before long." The writer, becoming specific, puts down some things which to him are obvious:

"The Protestant Episcopal Church will not be split asunder. Its diocesan structure prevents that. It has almost one hundred dioceses, each taking its chief characteristics from its head, the bishop. These dioceses are not in danger of breaking up. The troubles in the Protestant Episcopal Church, which occupy front-page space in some of the metropolitan dailies, are chiefly local and relatively unimportant. Were a few bishops a little different from what they are, the troubles would disappear overnight. The Protestant Episcopal Church throughout the United States is busied with its great work for the Kingdom of Christ, unaffected to any considerable extent by disputes and factions; in a conspicuous way it is developing its own internal unity and, as never before, is establishing contacts and entering into cooperation with other Christian people.

"The Methodist Episcopal Church, also under episcopal control, and yet in a quite different sense, not broken into dioceses, but combined into one compact 'system,' was never further from danger of splits and schisms than it is to-day. This great church is simplifying and consolidating its machinery and is entering into larger fellowship and cooperation with other churches than ever before. Methodist leaders have wisely kept all of their men and all of their organizations busy with missionary tasks, adapted to new and changed conditions, and have let it be known, so it is reported, that disputes and contentions respecting doctrines and dogmas would not be looked upon at headquarters with favor. An outside observer discovers no inward

The Des Moines Capital

Four Leased Telegraph Wires Associated Press; International News Service Leased Wire

AFTERNOON TWO CENTS

VOL. XLI, NO. 11 DES MOINES, IOWA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1924.—EIGHTEEN PAGES.

NEGRO TRIES TO ATTACK WOMAN

THRONGS AWAITING VANDERLIP

HIDES IN CELLAR STAIRWAY AND ATTEMPTS TO GRAB MRS. M'KINNEY; HOLDUP AND BURGLARY REPORTED

Negro Bandits Holds Up Man Near the State House—Christian Science Reading Room Also Entered.

Another attempt to attack a woman, a hold-up and a burglary constituted the contributions last night to the record of crime in Des Moines.

A Negro hiding in the cellar stairway of the E. M. McKinney home, 1001 Nineteenth street, attempted to seize Mrs. McKinney when she went to the basement to hang up clothes. He was frightened away when he heard other members of the family who were in the front part of the house approaching.

Police were called to the neighborhood but were unable to find any trace of the Negro. Mrs. McKinney was able to give a good description of the man, and said she would be able to identify him without difficulty. He wore white shoes spattered with lime, and may be the same man who attacked a girl in West Des Moines recently. That Negro also wore white shoes splashed with lime.

William Cavanaugh, 1608 Capitol avenue, was held up at 11 o'clock last night by a lone Negro bandit at East Sixteenth and Capitol avenue, he reported to police. The hold-up man relieved him of $28 in cash.

The Christian Science reading rooms on the seventh floor of the Iowa National bank building was entered by burglars during the night, but so far as could be discovered, nothing of value was taken.

Soon after the burglary Frank McGuire, who told police that he lives in Denver, was arrested by Detective Fred Gagen. In his possession was found a kit of burglar tools.

McGuire is said to have confessed to detectives that he broke into the Christian Science reading rooms, after he was told that he had been recognized by someone working in the building. Police believe that he may be implicated in other recent burglaries and are holding him for further investigation.

CHIEF WOULD CURB USE OF AUTOMOBILE

Has Bill to Declare Cars Public Nuisance.

The prejudice of Chief of Police Hammond against the automobile, which he claims is one of the chief factors in the commission of crime, has reached the proportions of a bill which the author hopes to get thru the legislature.

The proposed measure would "declare automobiles and other xehicles used for unlawful purposes to be public nuisances, and subject to injunction and abatement proceedings, and providing for punishment for contempt of court for a violation of the order."

PLAN DRIVE TO AID EUROPEAN CHURCHES

Bishop Nuellson Appeals to Ministerial Association.

Bishop John A. Nuellson of Zurich, Switzerland, laid the foundation for a campaign to be carried on by thte Protestant churches of Des Moines in behalf of the stricken churches of central Europe, in his addresses here Wednesday. He spoke before the Des Moines Ministerial association at the noon meeting at the Y. M. C. A. and at a public meeting at the First Methodist Episcopal church last night.

He stated 300 religious publications have suspended due to lack of fuds and many schools of Protestant denominations have been forced to close because of loss of endowments.

LABOR CABINET FACING DEFEAT

May Be Ousted On Question of "Poplarism."

LONDON, Feb. 14.—(A. P.)—The labor government finds itself in a

RECORD YEAR IN FREIGHT HAULING

New High Mark for Railroads In 1923.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.—(A. P.)—A record amount of freight traffic was carried by the railroads of the country in 1923, according to complete reports filed today with the bureau of railway economics.

Traffic handled during 1923 amounted to 457,589,846,000 net ton miles, which exceded by 2.3 per cent the 1920 total, the previous high record. Compared with 1922, this was an increase of 21.7 per cent. For the month of December, however, there was a decrease of 7.9 per cent in comparison with the same month in 1922.

The average load per freight car in 1923 amounted to 27.9 tons for one ton above the average for 1922, but a decrease of 1.4 tons compared with the record average established in 1920.

PROFITEERING IN BREAD ALLEGED

Colossal "Bread Trust" Charged In Manly Report.

RETAIL PRICES TOO HIGH

Should Be Five Cents Instead of Nine, He Says.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—A report charging nationwide profiteering in bread and the creation of a colossal bread trust is impending "was submitted today by Basil M. Manly, director of the people's legislative service, to Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin, its chairman, and "other progressive senators and representatives." The report, which was outlined in an announcement by the organization recommended congressional action to "deflate bread prices and check the growth of the bread trust."

An investigation of wheat and bread prices, made at the request of the senators and representatives to whom the report was submitted showed, it was said, that the American people are paying "a million dollars a day" too much for their bread. The average retail price of bread in the United States is nine cents a pound, whereas on the basis of present wheat prices it should be five cents, the report said, adding that bread made with American flour is now selling in England at an average price of four cents a pound.

Asserting millers, bakers and retailers were all making "enormous" profits, the report cited as an example the General Baking company, described as "one of the [illegible] wholesale baking corporations in the country. As a result of the profits

LEGION ASSAILS GEN. O'RYAN AS ENEMY OF BONUS

Accuses Him of Using His Position to Fight the Proposal.

LETTER MADE PUBLIC

Associates In Bureau Probe Urged to Promote the Mellon Plan.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.—(I. N. S.)—Maj. Gen. John R. O'Ryan, chief counsel for the senate committee that investigated the veterans' bureau scandal, was charged today by the American Legion with using his official position to accomplish the enactment of the Mellon tax bill and defeat of the soldiers bonus.

The Legion based its charged upon a form letter written by O'Ryan to hundreds of doctors and lawyers throughout the country who voluntarily aided him in the Forbes investigation, urging them to form committees in their districts to support the Mellon plan.

"The American Legion must consider it extremely bad taste that General O'Ryan makes use of his committee that later worked in the cause of the disabled soldiers, to now work for a certain tax reduction plan," said a legion statement.

HUGE SUPPLY OF COAL STORED

Operators Says Dealers Are Ready for Possible Strike.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Feb. 14.—(A. P.)—Sixty-five millions tons of coal have been mined and are in stock against the day of a possible miners strike, a leading operator declared here this morning before the sub-committee of bituminous miners and operators resuming their efforts to agree on the next wage scale.

"By April 1, when the contract expires," the operator said, "there will be 75,000,000 tons in stock. But there is a small chance, a very small chance of a strike. Miners don't want it, and the public doesn't want it, but there are some who do, and [illegible] for it."

This same operator declared the mine operators get a smaller re-

Girl Suicide Pays For Gas Consumed

Mystery Surrounds Identity of Young Woman.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 14.—Police today were attempting to establish the identity of a young woman who ended her life in a Dauphine street rooming house yesterday leaving a note which stated she was enclosing $90 for her burial expenses and $2 for the gas consumed in asphyxiating herself.

The woman told the proprietress of the lodging house that her name was Lillian Leone and that her home was in Nashville, Tenn. A railroad ticket found in her affects showed she left Birmingham last Thursday.

Scraps of paper found by the police in her room indicated she had purchased an automobile in San Francisco. A torn envelope pieced together bore the name of Mrs. Lucille Burke, and an address of 996 Valence street, San Francisco. Another address, 1216 West Adams street, Birmingham, Ala., was written on other pieces of paper.

COMMITTEE FIRM ON IMMIGRATION

Johnson Says Change In Bill Not Likely.

HUGHES ALSO OBJECTS

Says Jap Regulations Inconsistent With Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Chairman Johnson and other members of the house immigration committee appeared disinclined today to comply with the suggestion made by Secretary Hughes that Japan be placed on the same quota basis as other nations in the immigration bill pending before the committee.

Mr. Hughes, in a letter placed before the committee today, said provisions of the bill which "single out Japanese immigrants for exclusion" are "inconsistent" with the treaty of 1911 and, if enacted, might "largely undo the work of the Washington conference on limitation of armanent which so greatly improved our relations with Japan."

On the other hand, he said, if the provision for certification of immigrants abroad were permitted to apply to Japanese, not only "a double control over the Japanese quota of less than 250 a year" under the measure's quota basis of two per cent of 1890 alien census figures would be attained, but the Tokio [illegible] could be expected to co-operate in preventing surreptitious entry of Japanese into this country.

NEW YORK BANKER'S SENSATIONAL RUMOR INVOLVING HARDING'S NAME EXPECTED TO BLOW UP AT HEARING

Other Sensational Developments In Oil Scandal Likely to Follow Appearance of New Yorker On Stand.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.—(A. P.)—With Frank A. Vanderlip, New York banker, ready to explain to the senate oil committee his statements in an address at Ossining, N. Y., relative to the sale of the Marion Star, the name of President Harding loomed today among the crowding sensations developing in the naval reserve leasing inquiry.

Mr. Vanderlip's suggestion that the source of the $550,000 he understood had ben paid to Mr. Harding for the Star should be investigated produced a staggering effect in the capital, and his agreement to appear before the committe crowdd the approaches to its hearing room long before the morning session was due to begin, despite it was not known whether he would be questioned immediately.

Louis H. Brush and Roy D. Moore, the purchaser of the Star [illegible] awaited by the spectators, whose interest was only slightly whetted by the committee's intention to question Mr. Vanderlip not only about his reference to the late president but his statement to the effect that former Secretary Fall had not been pressed for further testimony lest he "peach' 'and invoice men in "high places." Mr. Brush announced at Cleveland late yesterday he and Mr. Moore would be here today ready to appear before the committee if their testimony should be desired.

May Recall Doheny.

While attention was focused almost exclusively today on the Vanderlip incident, indications of other major sensations hovered in the offing. Among these was the possibility that E. L. Doheny may be recalled for questioning with reference to reports reaching the committeemen that he had employed or sought to employ a number of former government officials and former senators whose names had not previously been brought into the inquiry. Among the former officials thus mentioned was Bainbridge Colby, former secretary of state, to whom the California oil magnate was reported to have offered a large fee in an unsuccessful effort to retain him as counsel about the time Woodrow Wilson withdrew from the law firm of Wilson & Colby and it was dissolved.

General discussion of the opposition in the senate to President [illegible] idge's selection of [illegible] H. Strawn of Chicago and former Senator Pomerene of Ohio to act as the government's counsel in the oil cases

DEMOCRATS OPPOSE MELLON TAX RATES

To Present United Party Front In Fight.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—The revenue bill was taken up by the house today for general debate after two months consideration in committee, facing united democratic opposition to its income rates as the result of a party caucus yesterday. The democratic caucus voted to bind the entire party membership of 207 to support the income tax rates proposed by Representative Garner, (dem.) Texas, as opposed to the Mellon schedules carried in the bill.

Leaders of both parties have agreed to clear the way for speedy consideration of the measure.

SAWYER HEARD IN LE MARR SUIT

Tells of Paying Blackmail for Movie Star.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 14.—Cross-examination of Arthur H. Sa[illegible], manager for Barbara La[illegible]arr, film actress, was to be resumed today in the trial of Herman Roth, charged with attempting to extort money from Miss La Marr's manager.

Yesterday Mr. Sawyer told [illegible]

NEWS CLIPPINGS FILE

PART TWO

NASHVILLE GLOBE.

Friday, December 19, 1924

NEWS OF INTEREST

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Whole Paper

$6,500 REWARD FOR ARREST OF MOB

CIVIC CLUBS DENOUNCE LYNCHING OF SAMUEL SMITH, NEGRO WHO SHOT GROCER

TO UPHOLD THE LAW

IKE EASTWOOD IN HOSPITAL LEARNS FIRST OF LYNCHING FROM REPORTER

(From Nashville Tennessean.)

(Nashville Tennessean)—From a self-styled band of public avengers, the mob members that took Samuel Smith, 15-year-old Negro burglar, from his deathbed and lynched him Monday night, were converted by public opinion Tuesday into a gang of fugitive slayers.

For their capture and conviction, the Chamber of Commerce, through its board of governors offered a reward of $5,000 at an afternoon session. Civic bodies, churches and public officials joined in the demand for their apprehension. And the officers of the county, city and state got into motion to trail the slayers down.

For probably the first time in the South, after a Negro lynching, a body of representative Negroes made public a resolution of denunciation here Tuesday afternoon. The action was taken by the Agora Club, composed of some of the leading Negroes in the city.

Officials Assign Men.

Without making a public statement of his intention, G. B. Kirkpatrick, county attorney-general, assigned a special corps of his evidence force to work on the case. Those assisted Bob Briley, the sheriff, in taking depositions of all witnesses and reinvestigating the ground covered Monday night.

Mayor Howse joined in the denunciation. He will issue a statement Wednesday morning after receiving the report of the board of governors of the General Hospital, which was drawn up Tuesday night.

The board voted to present Mrs. Amy F. Weagle, student nurse, with a medal for her bravery in attempting to guard the Negro against the mob.

Mrs. Weagle is a native of Boston, Mass., and first came to the South two years ago to make her home in Madison, Tenn.

Pressed for more facts about herself, the young nurse refused them on the ground of her dislike for publicity. She admitted she was "scared" and that the entry of the mob into the Negro ward was her first experience with anything resembling interracial conflict or mob violence.

She attempted to hide the chains by which Smith was held to the bed, and hindered the mob's exit as long as she was able. As a result of the incident, she was slightly ill Tuesday afternoon.

Judge Chester K. Hart of Part II criminal court, will deliver a special charge to the grand jury this morning in regard to the lynching.

Grocer Interviewed

Ike Eastwood, popular Nolensville grocer, who shot and was shot by the Negro following an attempt to rob his store and thus precipitated the mob incident, faces death at St. Thomas hospital. Pains from his wound prevented him from giving any expression on the lynching Tuesday night, when he was first told of it by a newspaperman.

"What do you think of it?" he was asked.

"I don't know," was his only answer.

He indicated with brief words between twinges of pain, that he knew neither of the Negroes who attempted to rob his store, and that he supposed Smith, who escaped and was found wounded in a nearby bunch of weeds next morning, was older than it developed he was.

Grocer's Story of Shooting

According to the account of the shooting as given Sheriff Briley by the wounded grocer, Sam Smith and Jim Smith, his uncle, had evidently had some trouble with their automobile a short distance away from the Eastwood home. Jim Smith left the boy with the automobile, came into the Eastwood garage, and was attempting to remove some parts from the grocer's automobile.

Noise of the attempt awakened Ike Eastwood's brother, who in turn a-

(Continued on page 4, Sec. II.)

A. M. E. MINISTERS RESOLUTIONS

COMMITTEE FROM METHODIST CONFERENCE TAKE ACTION

Nashville, Tenn., December 16, 1924.—The Ministerial Alliance of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of this city was apprised in its regular session yesterday of the obstreperous mob that invaded our proud city Monday evening, and besmirched the good name of the city and state whose conomic, social, religious, educational and civic advantages are probably unexcelled in any other section of the country.

As ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we deplore all crime and believe in the strong arm of the law, and of its enforcement by the constituted authorities. We hold no brief for the commission of crime by anyone and believe that all criminals should be punished. We desire to put ourselves on record in denunciation of this reprehensible crime against the peace and dignity of the state; the morale and teaching of the church and institutions, and the practice and preachment of civic righteousness for which its citizens are sponsors.

To this end the following committee was appointed to draft resolutions: Dr. W. A. Smith, pastor St. John A. M. E. Church; Dr. R. W. Mance, pastor St. Paul A. M. E. Church; Dr. A. P. Gray, presiding elder South Nashville District; Dr. C. H. Boone, presiding elder of North Nashville District; Dr. C. A. Fisher, pastor Lee Chapel A. M. E. Church.

Whereas, we deeply regret the crime of Samuel Smith, to whom justice should have been measured by the strong arm of the law rather than an unlawful mob, and,

Whereas, This act of lynching was more reprehensible, inhuman and flagrant violation of the laws of the State and Christian society,

Be it Resolved: That this sad blot upon the name of this fair city with its schools and churches by this unwarranted and inexcusable outrage, has caused us to tremble as we think of the future and what it holds.

And further resolve, that we denounce all forms of crime and give our unstinted support to constituted authority in suppressing the same, and we pray the Governor, the Mayor, and other constituted authorities along with civic workers and Christian people to use all efforts to apprehend the perpetrators.

Signed:

W. H. SMITH
R. W. MANCE
A. P. GRAY
C. H. BOONE
C. A. FISHER

BAPTIST MINISTERS [illegible] ACTION

Resolution Passed Condemning Lynch Law and Mob Violence—Appealing to Constituted Authorities for Redress.

The Baptist Ministers' Alliance of this city through their officers, have issued a burning statement denouncing the mob which took Sam Smith from the Nashville General Hospital and lynched him on Monday night. The resolution said:

Since we believe in the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to every American citizen, and since we represent that type of Americans who have measured up 100 per cent whenever they are called upon, having participated in every war from that of Queen Ann to the recent conflict of world war, and our fore-parents of the ravious generations, our brothers in the present age having demonstrated their valor and their support of the Stars and Stripes, and

Since we are to enjoy certain rights guaranteed to us under the Constitution, we call upon the constituted authorities to guarantee this and to make safe life and property in this city; therefore,

(Continued on page 4, Sec. II.)

City Condemns Lynching of Boy

Mass Meeting Is Being Held By Citizens Representing Nashville's Best

BANNER EDITOR DENOUNCES LYNCHING

EDITORIAL WHICH APPEARED IN THE EVENING PAPER TUESDAY

MONDAY NIGHT'S CRIME

"It is a long time between lynchings in Davidson county. The affair of last night was the first of the kind in thirty years.

Of course it should not have taken place. Those who committed the outrage blundered in a way that hurts the fair fame of this entire community.

Not that the victim deserved less than death for the premudiated and cruel crime he committed, the attempted murder of a good citizen of Nolensville, which is in Williamson county.

He had been brought to Nashville to the General Hospital and was taken from there by a body of armed, masked men, carried to near the scene of the murder and there, just within the Davidson county line, was hanged and riddled with bullets. There is litte doubt that he would have been found guilty by an impanneled jury and should his victim die, have been given the death sentence, which would have been the law's proper and inevitable course, and would have been approved.

There is but one excuse, and it should in this instance carry no weight, that can be made for the mob. It may be based upon the decision of that Chicago judge who gave to two criminal perverts the leniency of life sentences for as dastardly a murder as was ever perpetrated, on the ground that they were youths not of age. The Negro who shot down the Nolensville merchant was not of legal age. His criminal instincts, however, as in the case of the Chicago youths, were fully developed and mature. It was an outrageous violation of every tenet of justice and has paved the way for many crimes. When judges do wrong, the law loses public respect.

The local mob's execution was ultra vires, the outcropping and full development of barbarous disrespect for law. It was an unjust aspersion cast upon this entire section. It hurts us as a community and will bring fresh condemnation upon the civilization of the entire South.

There is no extenuation so far as the outside world is concerned in asserting, however truthfully, that such mob methods are condemned here, that they do not represent our civilization, that such mobs are rare and that the provocation was great.

The outstanding facts, which alone the outside world will contemplate, are that the Negro was lynched and his lynchers were white men. The reputation of our community, of our entire section, for culture, for enlightenment, for respect for law and for fair play will not stand for aught act by a few men whose reasons were inflamed by the desire for vengeance and whose indignation could not be tempered by any cool consideration of the reputation of the community. Nor is there any palliation for the crime in the fact that elsewhere, in all sections alike, lynch methods from time to time prevail.

The South and this community have been advancing rapidly in social and material development, have been fast gaining the respect of the rest of the world for their efforts to put down mob acts, to uphold the law, to bring the courts into general respect and to deserve the esteem of all men. Such an outrage as that of last night sets us far back again, covers us with the dark mantle of general condemnation.

Those who participated in the crime, greater far than that of the guilty Negro who shot down a good citizen in cold blood, defied the law in order to wreak their brutal vengeance—for them there can be no excuse. It is now up to the law, to our courts, to show that the law is stronger than its violators and that the courts, which would have dealt rightly by the Negro murderer, are strong enough to deal summarily with the members of the mob, who defied both law and courts.

Every mother's son of them should be run down and revealed and then indicted and brought to trial. Their names can be learned and they can be arrested. In this county there are officers of the law whose duty it is to investigate and arrest. They must go to it at once and there must be no failure. Our people will look to them for quick action and will be satisfied with nothing short of a complete rounding up of every culprit who was party to the lynching crime."

—Banner.

HEADS OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS DEPLORE HANGING

PROBE BEGINS

PLANS ARE BEING MADE TO ARREST AND PROSECUTE MOB LEADERS

(From Nashville Evening Tennessean.)

Nashville is angry.

For the first time in thirty years, the fair name of this city is besmirched by the stain of mob violence. On virtually every tongue is condemnation of the mob that took a helpless, wounded Negro boy from a bed in the General Hospital, strung him up to a tree, and riddled his body with bullets early this morning.

Probably no other things has been done here within a quarter of a century that has so aroused the indignation of citizenry.

In addition to the regular investigation into the hanging of Samuel Smith, 15, who shot and wounded Ike Eastwood, Nolensville grocer, the board of governors of the Nashville Chamber of Commerce is meeting with a large number of the leading citizens of this city formulating plans to run down and prosecute the leaders of the masked mob.

The Nashville Exhange Club and the Rotary Club members went on record at noon luncheons today condemning the action of the lawless mob.

Resolutions condemning the lynching also wee adopted at meeting today of the Nashville Ministerial Alliance and the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal church, South.

The board of drectors of the Nashville General Hospital has been called to meet this afternoon at 5 o'clock at the hospital. It is believed that the board will ask that immediate steps be taken to arrest leaders and members of the masked mob.

Law-abiding citizens from all walks of life today unqualifiedly condemned the mob and pledged all within their power in apprehending and prosecuting the leaders and members of the midnight mob.

Peay Out of City

Governor Peay is in Petros, at Brushy mountain penitentiary, and could not be reached for a statement.

Heads of every institution of higher education in Nashville in written statements, have gone on record as deploring and condemning the mob. The statement was signed by the following:

J. H. Kirkland, chancellor of Vanderbilt University.

C. E. Little, dean of George Peabody College for Teachers.

J. D. Blanton, president Ward-Belmont College.

J. L. Cunnibggim, president Scarritt University.

W. D. Weatherford, president Southern College Y. M. C. A.

F. A. McKenzie, president Fisk University.

J. J. Mullowny, president Meharry College.

Following is the statement of Nashville educators:

"We, the undersigned, as representatives of the institutions of higher education in Nashville, decide to record in the strongest possible words our condemnation of the brutal lynching that occurred in Nashville last night. Lynching is always and under all circumstances to be condemned and deplored. In this particular outbreak of mob violence

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TENNESSEAN AGAINST MOB LAW

MORNING PAPER COMES OUT STRONG UPHOLDING FAIR PLAY

"A BLOOD SPOT ON THE COMMUNITY."

Last Friday night Ike Eastwood, a Nolensville grocer, discovered two Negroes in the act of stealing parts of his automobile.

In an exchange of shots which followed Eastwood was shot and he in turn shot on of the Negroes.

The victim of Eastwood's gun proved to be samuel Smith, a boy fifteen years old.

He was taken a prisoner to the General Hospital.

Eastwood was taken to St. Thomas Hospital, where the authorities on Monday declared him to be on the road to recovery.

Monday at midnight a masked mob entered the General Hospital, forced its way into the Negro ward and seized the Negro b oycarried him to the scene of his crime, hung him and then riddled his body with bullets.

For the mob it was the end of a perfect night.

For Nashville and Davidson county it was a challenge to take stock and decide whether the law or the mob is t oprevail.

No more dastardly crime has ever been committed i nthis city.

The invasion of the hospital was a cowardly act in itself.

The premeditated murder of a helpless victim stigmatized the community no less than it branded the murderers with a red stain that will not wash off.

It was a reversion to jungle methods, to the rule of the beast, which the God-fearing citizen of this commonwealth will not tolerate.

No act committed in this vicinity so instantly aroused its citizenship. Ringing resolutions by church and civic organizations give ample evidence of the reaction on the public mind.

But resolutions are not enough. They may solve the conscience. But they will not restore to Nashville that unblemished reputation for law and order that she enjoyed up until midnight Monday.

The good name of this city must be restored. The bloody blot must be erased. The perpetrators of this outrage must be hunted down and brought to the bar of justice. This is the least the law-abiding people of the city can insist.

All over this country today the Nashville mob is the theme of the leading editorials. We as a community are condemned and held up to scorn for the act of a despicable group more criminal in every respect than the victim of their blood lust.

The city of Vanderbilt, of Peabody, of Ward-Belmont; the city of schools and churches; the city of homes; the city where a great religious revival is now in its last week—Nashville is plunged from its pinnacle of decency and morality t othe level of the lowest form of savagery.

Then what are we to do about it? Are we to accent this verdict of moral degeneracy that the mob has written to us, or are we to rise above our shame and our humiliation and ferret out the denizens of the jungle who prowl among us and redeem ourselves in the eyes of state and of nation?

There is no choice. We have no alternative. The law of the state has been disregarded. The good name of the city has been besmirched. The manhood of every decent citizen of the community has been challenged. And we'll be men enough, please God, to meet the challenge.—Tennessean.

CITIZENS PASS RESOLUTIONS ON MOBS AND RECENT LYNCHING

At a mass meeting held here Wednesday night, in the Colored "Y" Building, attended by representatives of the following Negro organizations: Angora Club, A. M. E. Ministers' Alliance, Baptist Ministers' Conference, Board of Trade, Builders Association, City Federation of Women's Clubs, Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance, M. E. Ministers' Alliance, Nashville Clarion, Nashville Globe, Walden College, the following resolutions were adopted:

We as representatives of the colored citizens were very much shocked and grieved on reading the account of the

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PUBLIC AROUSED OVER INJUSTICE

SENTIMENT DEMANDS ANSWER TO JUSTICE FOR MOB OUTRAGE

LYNCHING PROBE BEGUN

SHERIFF'S FORCES WITH PEACE OFFICERS BUSY AT WORK

(From Nashville Tennessean.)

The pall of death was hanging over Sam Smith, 15-year-old Negro mob victim, at the city general hospital from the gunshot wounds inflicted by Ike Eastwood whom he had shot, when the masked members of the mob entered the hospital and forced him to accompany them out the Nolensville pike, where he was hanged to a tree and his naked body riddled with bullets.

Smith was expected to die either last night or within the next few hours as the result of the wounds which Eastwood had inflicted upon him, according to Sheriff Bob Briley. Tuesday morning. He had received a full load of birdshot from Eastwood's gun in the right side, the loads penetrating the vital organs. Eastwood, thought to have been fataly wounded at first is expected to recover at St. Thomas Hospital. The bullet ranged across the front of his abdomen and lodged in the right thigh instead of penetrating the hollow of the abdomen, according to physicians.

Investigations as to the identity of the members of the mob were started by Sheriff Briley as soon as information reached him of the intentions of the mob. He was one of the first to reach the scene of the hanging, and with his deputies cut the Negro from the tree and sent his body to a local undertaker. The remainder of the night was spent in efforts to find some clue that might lead to the identification of the men who took the life of the Negro boy. Officers were assigned to the investigation Tuesday, and were dispatched to the Nolensville neighborhood in an effort to pick up any available clues. Early efforts of the officers met with complete failure. All persons questioned disclaimed any knowledge of the plans of the mob or denied having heard any rumors of the proposed mob.

Three empty shotgun shells, two fired from a 10 gauge gun and one from a 12 gauge, all loaded with buckshot, furnish the only clue to the sheriff's forces that might lead to the identity of the men who fired the bullets that killed Smith as his nude body hung suspended from the limb of the tree within 50 yards of where Sheriff Briley arrested him Monday morning.

Sheriff Briley said that the buckshot that took effect in Smith's back caused his death. Pistol bullets were said to have been fired and marks were found in the tree to which Smith was suspended, but only the buckshot wounds were found in the Negro's body.

The sheriff explained that the Negro was brought to the county jail following his arrest and upon examination was found to be seriously wounded by Eastwood. Lacking facilities to care for him in the serious condition, he was sent to the city hospital for treatment in an effort to save his life. The revelation that Eastwood's wound would not likely prove fatal and the seeming quietude of the neighborhood offered no hints of expected mob violence, according to the sheriff. No guard was placed at the hospital outside of the regular attendants of the patients. Smith was chained to the bed to prevent his escape. A handcuff had been locked around his leg and chain attached to the rail of the bed. This was severed and still hung to the Negro's foot when cut down from the "gibbet."

Plans Well Laid

The orderly plans of the mob, their cutting of the wires of communication from the hospital to the sheriff's office, and their hasty and complete disappearance after the killing of their victim, gave city and county of-

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HIGHLY RESPECTED CITIZENS CALL ON GOVERNOR AND SHERIFF FOR ACTION

(From Nashville Banner.)

Holding that the lynching of "a defenseless Negro boy" Monday night has made the governor of Tennessee and the sheriff of Davidson county the two officials who are in a position to lift the community from the disgrace inflicted upon it, a number of Nashville's most highly respected citizens today addressed a communication to Gov. Austin Peay and Sheriff Robert Briley declaring that it was inconceivable that the guilty persons could not be apprehended and punished.

The letter follows in full:

"Gov. Austin Peay,

"Sheriff Robert Briley:

"Gentlemen—The brutal violence of the mob which last night dragged a defenseless Negro boy from the hospital and murdered him has not only added to the difficulties and responsibilities of the offices you fill; it has made you the two men who can do most to redeem Nashville and Tennessee from the disgrace inflicted upon them by this mob. To you, as governor of Tenessee, and as sheriff of Davidson county, the law-abiding and law-loving people of the county and the state must look to see that the members of this mob are not allowed to escape the just penalties of their crime, but are apprehended, brought to trial and made to answer to justice for this outrage against the law and against the good name of our city and our state.

"It is inconceivable that the men who did this deed cannot be found if a determined effort is made to find them. In the opportunity to ferret out and to bring them to justice you have an opportunity which no one else can have to discourage future mob violence and to protect the good name of the state and the South. It is our trust that you will use all the power of your offices to accomplish these ends, and we, as citizens of Nashville stand ready to render you every assistance we can give until this crime against us all has been punished.

Very respectfully yours,

B. Kirk Rankin, W. R. Cole, Leslie Cheek, Eustice A. Hall, Luke Lea, Paul M. Davis, P. D. Houston, J. H. Ambrose, G. P. Rose, Walter Keith, J. S. McHenry, D. F. C. Reeves, H. L. Williamson, Charles S. Martin, George A. Shwab, Paul A. Stumb, Joseph T. Howell, W. W. Crandall."

Mayor Hilary E. Howse said he deeply regreted that such an act should have taken place in the General hospital. It was unknown to him that the Negro boy had been placed there, and therefore, the Nashville police had no opportunity to give him protection. The mayor has asked the manager of the hospital to submit a written report on the incident today and will make a statement to the citizens of Nashville Wednesday, he said.

The following expressions were obtained by the Nashville Banner from recognized leaders in educational, business, church and civic circles this morning deploring the lynching:

W. D. Weatherford, chairman of the Tennessee state inter-racial committee—For the first time in thirty years Nashville and Davidson county have had their record blackened by a lynching. The deed is all the more hideous because a wounded Negro boy was taken from a hospital bed and riddled with bullets before the law could have a chance to act. The humaneness of the law was giving the boy a chance for medical treatment before it brought him to the bar of justice.

Six armed men with handkerchiefs tied over their faces have not only shot a Negro boy to death, but they have murdered the spirit of obedience to law in the hearts of hundreds of people, they have insulted our civil government and done all they could to debauch the moral sense of our boys and girls. They have committed a greater crime than did the Negro boy, for they have broken down respect for life. They have exposed every good citizen to criticism, and made life less secure for all.

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CITIZENS PASS RESOLUTIONS MOB AND RECENT LYNCHING

(Continued from paye 1, Sec. II.)

When you strike a blow at the social inhuman lynching of a youth of fifteen years. We are equally as gratified to read in today's papers that the law abiding and better class of our white citizens had taken such a bold and strong stand in condemnation of the act, both by resolutions and the subscribing of a reward of $5000.00 which was supplemented by a reward of $1500.00 offered by the state through Governor Peay for the ferretting out and prosecution of those responsible for this heinous crime against our state, country, ciyt and citizen body as a whole.

We feel that such a courageous act was prompted by a high desire for justice and a realization of the fact that the welfare of the two groups is common, and that any unlawful act committed against one group must untimately react abainst the other. Therefore it behooves both groups t osee that all unlawful acts are condemned and punished. We appreciate the stand of the Governor, Mayor and Sheriff and are assured that if they persist in the course which they have chosen their efforts will bear fruit. We also comment the heroic act of Mrs. Weagle, the nurse in charge of the colored ward.

Acts of this kind will do more than anything else to convince the Negro that there are among the southern white citizens those who are courageous enough to demand justice for all men and are willing t oback their demands with public utterances and money. We also commend our daily papers for the stand they have taken in the whole matter, and hope their future policy will be t ogive as little publicity as possible to any act that will tend to stir up in any wise race prejudice or antagonism, and will stress every item that makes for racial peace and concord.

We are proudd of Nashville and the south. This pride is evidenced by the fact that we have invested millions of dollars in schools, churches, publishing houses and well equipped business houses and homes, and are using our influence to entice many more of our people to come this way and share the blessings of prosperity which we enjoy. It is therefore encouraging to us to note the splendid manner in which you have addressed yourselves to this delicate situation.

Committee,
Signed:
C. K. Brown, Chairman.
Mrs. J. F. Pierce.
C. L. McKissack.
H. A. Boyd.
G. B. Washington.
J. E. Anderson.
E. W. D. Isaac, Sr., Sec'y.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE AT ROGER TENNESSEE.

There is to be a Sunday School Institute held at the Mount Zion Baptist Church, Rucker, Tennessee, December 27th, 28th. The church is pastored by Rev. Dr. Bowen of Murfreesboro, but it is understood that the Rutherford County people are making exceptionally large preparations for this occasion. They have invited the Sunday School Congress Secretary to be present, the B. Y. P. U. Specialist and the Superintendent of the Teacher Training Service. It is also learned that quite a delegation from Nashville will motor up to Rucked on that Sunday to be present at this occasion.

PAYNE CHAPEL NOTES

The Coronation Club, which is made up of the younger set of Payne Chapel met Monday night, at the residence of Rev. and Mrs. I. T. Jefferson, 514 Ramsey Street. A delightful evening was spent in story telling and parlor games.

The Young People's Earnest Workers Club was entertained by Mrs. B. M. Morrison, Tuesday evening, December 16th. The club plans to beautiful the interior of Payne Chapel Church as soon as possible.

The Trustee Aid Board met at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Murphy, 613 Webster St., Friday evening. General church discussions were the chief topics of the meeting. Stewardess Board No. 2 was entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Marshall, 930 Main St., last Tuesday evening. Stewardess Board No. 1 met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis Officer, 733 Boyce St., Wednesday evening. After the meeting a delicious ice course was served.

Sunday is Zone Report Day at Payne Chapel. The pastor Dr. I. T. Jefferson will preach two special sermons. At 11 o'clock a. m. "Paul Wishes to Rejoice in Christ's Coming." 7:30 p. m. "The Day of Reckoning." The public is invited to these services. Special music will be renedered at each service.

Rev. I. T. Jefferson.

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

The pastor Dr. H. M. Burns will fill the pulpit both morning and night, Sunday, Dec. 21, 1924.

At 2:30 p .m. the officers of the laymen's league will be installed. Rev. T. A. Brown, pastor of the Mt. Ararat Baptist Church will preach the sermon. The Tabernacle Baptist church members are planning to carry out their usual Christmas shpirit by presenting a Christmas purse for their pastor as a token of their high esteem for the service he has rendered. This purse will be presented Sunday night, Dec. 21st, 924.

The Christmas tree and exercises will be held at Tabernacle Baptist Church Monday night, Dec. 29th. A large number of children are being drilled for the exercises. A committee has been appointed to arrange for Old Santa Claus, who will be with us on that night to see the children and give out the presents. Admission 10 cents. Unusual interest is being expressed in the Deacon's New Year Rally, which will come off on the third Sunday in January, 18th, 1925. The cause of the interest, first because it is the first rally in the ney year. Second, the Deacons are leading the clubs. Third, Rev. W. M. Whiteside and the I John Baptist church will be present at the 11:00 o'clock hour. Rev. Whiteside will preach the sermon at 2:00 o'clock, Rev. W. M. Crawford will preach the sermon. Other ministers and professional workers will be present. At 7:30 p. m., we will reach the climax. Rev. Dr. W. H. Whittaker and the St. John Baptist Church with all of their departments will be present. Sermon by Dr. Whittaker. Music by the St. John Baptist Church Choir. This trio of pastors and their churches coming to us in the first rally of the New Year gives splendid evidence of a fine beginning an dassured success. Each member of our church is taxed $2.00. The officers and pastor is hoping that none shall fail as this is our first effort for the year 1925.

IN MEMORIAM.

In sad but loving remembrance of my daughter, Mrs. Estella M. Hodge, who departed this life six years ago today, December 11, 1918. Just six years ago today my daughter passed away. Angels called her home above. Oh! the sadness of that morning, when the news came that you were dead. Oh! if I could have been with you my heart would not be so sad. This day recalls sad memories of a loved one gone to rest. For the ones who think of her today are the ones that love her best. The flowers I lay upon your grave may wither and decay, but the love I have for you dear daughter will never fade away. Farewell dearest daughter, a sad farewell. Oh! how I msis you no one can tell and wnen on earth I breathe no more, I trust we shall meet to part no more.

Written by her mother, Mrs. Docia House; Father, William House; Sister, Mrs. O. B. Williams; Brothers, J. D. House, Charles House, Thomas W. House.

Rev. U. L. Brown of Gary, Indiana, took active charge as pastor of the Church of God, corner 4th Avenue and Hiland Street, last Sunday. He occupied the pulpit at two services. Rev. Brown comes to Nashville representing his denomination with years of experience, having pastored in such states as Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. During the early part of the week he was busy getting around over the city, investibating and inspecting Nashville's institutions.

Rev. Preston Taylor, pastor of the Lea Avenue Christian Church, spent several days in St. Louis this week, but is expected to return to occupy his pulpit Sunday.

ALL'S WELL!

Washington, Dec. 16.—Today's cabinet gave evidence that all was well with the nation. When the President called the meeting to order no member of the cabinent had anything he thought necessary to call to the attention of the President. The meeting lasted but five minutes.

President Scarritt College.
W. D. WEATHERFORD,
President Southern College Y. M. C. A.
F. A. McKENZIE,
Present Fisk University.
J. J. MULLOWNEY,
President, Meharry College.

At a meeting called for the purpose seretaries of the board of missions, M. E. Church, South, adopted resolutions denouncing the lynching of a Negro youth in Nashville, Monday night as an outrage that added the stain of cowardice to the crime of murder. The resolutions follow:

"We have learned with inexpressible regret and shame of the stain that has been put upon the city, the bitter affront dealt the law-abiding and Christian sentiment of the community, and the wanton assault on justice, peace and civilized public opinion, in the taking of the life of a human being by a lawless mob. That the victim was a youth of only fifteen, wounded and helpless in a hospital and a member of the colored race, is an incident that adds the stain of dastardly cowardice to that of murder.

"It is with profound sorrow and numiliation that we face this outrage and realize that it is an unenviable contribution of a city of churches and schools to the red record of lawlessness that has so long cursed our land.

"It is our hope and expectation that the authorities will use every means at their disposal to mete out punishment to those guilty of this outrage, and to clear the fair name of the community from any suspicion of connivance or toleration in this crime. C. G. Hounshell, chairman; Mrs. B. W. Lipscomb, secretary."

Missionary secretaries resident in Nashville are: Drs. W. W. Pinson, E. H. Rawlings, J. W. Perry, R. L. Russell, A. C. Zumbrunnen, C. G. Hounshell, Robert H. Ruff, Mrs. J. W. Downs, Mrs. J. H. McCoy, Miss Esther Case, Miss Mabel K. Howell, Mrs. B. W. Lipscomb, Mrs. Hume R. Steele, Miss Estelle Haskin. There is a profound feeling of regret pervading denomination ranks regarding the occurrence.

Ministers' Alliance—We have learned with inexpressible regret and shame of the stain that has been put upon the city, the bitter affront dealt the law-abiding and Christian sentiment of the community, and the wanton assault on justice, peace and civilized public opinion, in the taking of the life of a human being by a lawless mob. That the victim was a youth of only fifteen, wounded and helpless in a hospital, and a member of the colored race, is an incident that adds the stain of dastardly cowardice to that of murder.

It is with profound sorrow and humiliation that we face this outrage and realize that it is an unenviable contribution by the city of churches and schools to the red record of lawlessness that has so long cursed our land.—By J. J. Walker.

Col. Luke Lea, president of the Exchange Club: "All citizens of Nashville, who believe in the supremacy of the law, will condemn without reservation the lynching which occurred Monday night.

The era of lawlessness which is prevailing, not only in Nashville, but throughout the country, is always strengthened and prolonged, where an attempt is made to prevent it and to punish the law violators by any group of individuals attempting to place itself above the law and to take the law's administration into its own hands.

Whitefoord R. Cole, president of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway: No good citizen could fail to deplore lawlessness of that kind. The crime with which the Negro was charged was of such a nature as to make people feel indignant, but there was no excuse for mob violence. I am sure that the act will be deplored by all good citizens.

Dr. George Stoves, pastor of the West End Methodist church: I deeply deplore it, and hope that those guilty will be brought to punishment. The community has been disgraced

Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, who has episcopal supervision over the Tennessee district of the M. E. Church, South: I am greatly shocked. The state is disgraced. The city of Nashville is ashamed. Crime never cures crime. This lynching is especially brutal, and it was entirely unnecessary. In due time justice certainly would have taken its course. In the name of Christ and humanity, all law-abiding citizens must resolve anew to rise up and wipe the disgrace of lynchings from the fair name of our state.

R. D. Herbert, president of the Chamber of Commerce—It is an awful thing. It stirs up undesired advertising for the city and state over the country which is not representative of this section. The mob acted hastily and without cause. The crime with which the Negro was charged was not sufficient for the taking of a 15-year-old boy from the hospital and the action was hasty and uncalled for.

Leonard Sisk, president of the American Business Club—I feel that was a terrible mistake made by a thoughtless element in the community whose mistaken sense of justice placed them in the same category with the victim, in the eyes of the law. It is time, it seems to me, for we people who have established and support the law and its institutions to abide by them. It is simply an outrage.

Thomas H. Joy, president of the Rotary Club—The lynching of the 15-year-old Negro boy last night was a very deplorable affair. It is a pity that a clean record of thirty years in this regard should be marred in such a civilized community.

A. D. Armstrong, president of the Optimist Club—All good citizens must condemn the spirit which actuates mob violence in any form. No one doubts that the Negro boy would have paid the proper penalty for his crime in the due process of the law. Without regard to race or creed the citizenship of Nashville must condemn in no uncertain terms this outrage against the majesty of the law.

Herbert Corson, president of the Lion's Club—Inter-racial relations in Davidson county are unsurpassed anywhere. This disgrace will be wiped out by the law, supported by an outraged citizenry.

W. E. Ward, vice president of the Kiwanis Club—To me it is a matter of humiliation that the citizens of Davidson or Williamson county would commit such a crime, especially when they went into a hospital at midnight to accomplish their purpose.

Jesse Cowan, president of the Civitan Club—The lynching of a 15-year-old Negro boy last night by a mob of masked men is a disgrace to Nashville and the state of Tennessee, and should receive the condemnation of all law-abiding citizns. The boy should have been punished for his crime, but justice should have been meted to him through the courts and not by mob violence, and this would undoubtedly have been done had the law been allowed to take its course.

C. A. Craig, president of the National Life & Accident Insurance Co.—In thirty years there has been no happening in Nashville as regretable as that of last night, and that it should happened so closely upon the day that commemorates the birth of Him who came and suffered that such things should not be, adds, if posible, to the horror of it.

Nashville and all its people have sustained a fearful blow from those who should be its friends. Why cannot such occurrences be prevented by providing hospital quarters in the jail?

John Trotwood Moore, state librarian and archivist—It is lamentable and unfortunate that a 15-year-old wounded boy should have been taken from a hospital cot and lynched, but the real seat of it and cause of it is that so many criminals and murderers are walking the streets of Nashville without getting theirjust deserts in the courts.

Porter Dunlap, member of the state railroad and public utilities commission—It is an exceedingly deplorable affair. Every good citizen deplores it.

DEPLORES ACTION

Dr. Carpenter Says Hospital Should Be Inviolate.

That thesanctity of a hospital was violated was deplored by Dr. George K. Carpenter,resident physician at the Nashville General hospital in a statement made today, in reference to the band of masked men who carried Sam Smith, Negre patient at the hospital, away from the institution Monday night and lynched him. Dr. Carpenter said that while the fact that the men lynched the Negro was an unfortunate affair, it did not concern him anwy more than it did any other citizen, but the fact that the man was taken from the hospital was an affront to hospitals as humane agencies and to the medical profession.

The physician said that even undertors, nurses and hospitals have always been regarded as inviolate and a hospital represents the flag of truce or a city of refuge. In the opinion of Dr. Carpenter the invasion of the hospital and the carrying away of a patient who was so seriously injured was almost as great a crime as the lynching itself. The physician said this was taking into consideration the fact that the men uselesly and wantonly destroyed property while they were in the hospital, as the telephones damaged were not connected with the switchboard and were useles anyway.

Miss Amy Weagle, the nurse who was in the Negro ward when the men entered, is still suffering from the shock of the raid and is under the care of a physician.

Following the visit of the men who carried away the Negro, the hospital was again visited and the safe was robbed of about $100 in money and several watches, all the property of patients. The safe was opened without damaging the door. It is known that the robbery occurred after 1 o'clock, as Mr. Hardeman and Dr. Carpenter were at the safe at that time. The payroll was not touched, probably because it was in the form of checks.

NEGRO TO SELL CHRISTMAS SEALS

The Negro committee, which is cooperating with the Davidson County Anti-Tuberculosis Association, was granted permission today by Mayor Hilary Howse to sell the Christmas seals, the purpose of the work being to raise funds with which to make it possible for the association to put a Negro nurse in tlhd e fie jo.dvm Negro nurse in the field.

The Davidson county association announced some time ago that if the necessary funds could be obtained a Negro nurse would be added to the staff to give full time to the work among the Negroes, consequently the committee has volunteered its services to the sale of the seals, the means by which the anti-tuberculosis work is financed. Mrs. James Burnett is the chairman of the committee.

PAYNE CHAPEL NOTES

B. L. AND B. I. LITERARY SOCIAL

friends, outlining the rules that the be with Mr. W. D. Bass, 5 Duncan
(Mr.) Curtis Miles, Pres.
(Mrs.) Parlee Wharton, Sec.

LAYMEN LEAGUE NEWS

The Laymen League of the Tabernacle Baptist Church met December 11, 1924, at the residence of Rev. D. C. Merridith 1006 Clay street.

After going through with the regular routine of business, the league was turned over to the teacher, Rev. J. A. G. Jordan. The subject they had under discussion was the Lord's Supper. A very sharp discussion arose, when the question was asked, "Should Pedo Baptists Be Excluded From Our Communion."

The members of the Laymen League are putting forth their utmost to make the big program that will be rendered at the Tabernacle Baptist Church Dec. 22, 1924, a success. They have spared no pains in making this the grandest affair that has ever been held in south Nashville.

Miss Minnie Lester will act as Mistress of Ceremonies. Rev. J. A. G. Jordan will deliver the welcome address. Mr. C. Hall of Walden College will respond.

Three of the best quartets in the city will appear on the program. The Southern Quartet, the New Hope quartet and the Napier quartet. Mrs. A. L. Williams, Miss Margrette Swanson, Mr. E. A. Alexander and Mr. W. D. Denny will render a solo.

Climax of the occasion will be a reading contest among six of the best dramatical readers of the city. They are as follows: Miss Oberia Martin of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church; Miss S. B. Dilehaunty, A. and I. State Normal; Miss Myrtle Fulton Tabernacle Baptist Church. Miss Mary Landers, Miss Hazel Baker, Mt. Olive Baptist Church and Miss Annie Dozier. A ten dollar gold piece will be given to the winner, which will be delivered by Dr. L. R. W. Johnson.

Miss Ruth Bandy will give a violin selection and Mr. C. V. Rodney will give a piano selection.

The League adjourned to meet Thursday Dec. 18, at the residence of Mr. A. L. Priest, 706 Allison street.

Dea. C. H. Sutton, Pres.
Rev. J. A. G. Jordan, Cor. Sec.

RACE RELATIONS IMPROVING, SAYS ANNUAL REPORT

Interracial Commission Tells of Activities In Eleven Southern States.

Kinder Attitude and Better Conditions.

Great Gains in Education and Civic Advantages—Lynching Decline Three Fourths in Two Years.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec.: A comprehensive survey of what interracial committees throughout the South are doing to promote better relations between the races is embodied in the annual report just issued for general distribution by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, with headquarters in this city. Entitled "Progress in Race Relations," the report is a twenty-page phamphlet packed with stories of concrete achievements in better educational facilities, health campaigns, anti-lynching crusade, legal aid, adjustment of differences, provision of public utilities, the study of race relations in church and college groups, the work of women's organizations in this field, and the cooperatoin of the press. All the southern states except Arkansas and Florida are covered by the survey and results are cited reaching down into a great number of local communities.

According to the report, the provision of better Negro schools has been a major objective everywhere, followed closely by efforts for better sanitation, hospital accommodations, street improvement, library and playground facilities, justice in the courts, agricultural training, the care of delinquents, improved conditions of travel, and other advantages essential to the development of the colored race in character and efficiency.

The report points with special gratification to the reduction of seventy-five per cent in lynchings in the last two years, from 58 in 1922 to 28 in 1923, and fourteen in the current year. No small measure of credit for this result, says the report, is due the newspapers for the "great volume of editorial comment that has helped to make sentiment against this crime." The general attitude of the papers, continues that has come about in recent years, the report, has been sympathetic and helpful.

Most encouraging, says the report, is the great change in public sentiment relative to this whole question that has come about in recent years, resulting in better conditions along all lines. As a notable illustration the fact is cited that in all the southern states the per capita expenditures for Negro education are now two, three and in one case five times as much as ten years ago.

The Commission on Interracial Cooperation was organized by a group of southern leaders shortly after the world war, in the effort to stem the tide of race conflict which threatened the country at that time. The crises having been met, it turned its attention to the permanent improvement of conditions and attitudes. Its membership now numbers seventy-five representative men and women. Dr. M. Ashby Jones, of Atlanta, is Chairman of the Commission and Dr. W. W. Alexander has general charge of the work. A directory of the Commission and of the executive staff is embodied in the report, copies of which are available to all persons interested.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our darling little daughter, Willie Beatrice Elizabeth, who departed this life Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1921.

We miss you more than anything in this world,
Tho your absence makes us sorrow,
And it seems too hard to bear
We await the glad tomorrow,
When we will join you over there.

Then we will dry our tears beloved
And look forward to the time
When we meet to live forever,
In that Eternal blessful clime.
Mother and father,
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Dotson.

GORDON MEMORIAL M. E. CHURCH

Sunday was a high day at Gordon. Sunday school was opened at 9:30 a. M., with a large number present. Each teacher took charge of their respective classes for thirty minutes, the lesson was well discussed. We are proud to say our church is still progressing under the good leadership of Rev. H. P. Gordon and wife.

Sunday at 11 a. m., we were favored with Rev. J. C. Sherril, our District Supt. of the Nashville district, who preached two logical sermons, he also preached at 7:30 p. m., text, St. Matt. 5th chapter and 14th verse. Ye are the light of the world, a city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. All enjoyed these two wonderful sermons.

The Epworth League has taken on new life under the leadership of Miss Nanie Harris.

Sunday at 2 p. m., the funeral of Bro. John L. Smith was had, he was a consistent Christian, he bore his sickness with great patience. Bro. Smith was a dear lover of the Sunday school, he also devoted most of his time to the children. His funeral was attended by his pastor, Rev. H. P. Gordon, his text, Psa. 71:9. Cast me not off when I am old. A large congregation was present.

Rev. H. P. Gordan, Pastor.
Frazie A. Vaughter, Reporter.

BELLS, TENN., NEWS

Mr. Aaron Bailey's home was destroyed by fire Friday. Mrs. Frank Koonce died Tuesday morning, her remains were shipped to Stanton, Tenn., for burial. Mesdames J. B. Bonds, Jake Williams, Dawcie Cole, Mary Payne, Mr. Edd Duffy accompanied the body and her husband and sister, to Stanton. Mr. Frank Koonce and Miss Pearl Broadnax. She was a member of Living Circle No. 3039 Bells, Tenn. Mr. Hessie Sherron and Bryant Paston motored to Bells, Sunday. Mr. Paul Webb, Henry Simmon, Herman Searcy, Roy Cobb, Jessie Lee Graves, Mrs. Lerlie Roberson and Mrs. Florence Hoard motored to a banquet Friday afternoon, Alamo, Tenn. Mr. Robert (Jack) McLemore and Mr. Henry Simmons left for St. Louis, Mo., Saturday night. Mr. Bolton Cole, Miss Sam Ella Cole and others spent Sunday in town. Mrs. S. W. Wilburn, Mr. S. S. Searcy, Mrs. Alma Blade are on the sick list this week. See W. W. Cole and get the Nashville Globe.

THE LE VINGT ET-UN

The Le Vingt Et-Un Club met Thursday December 11, at the residence of Miss Hazel Harwell. The meeting was opened with our efficient president, Miss M. A. McGavock presiding. A short business session was engaged in. Plans for the Xmas social to be given at the Lu-Evlyn Club House, on the night of December 25 were completed. After the business session was over, the social hour followed; five hundred and whist were enjoyed.

We are very glad to have two new members—Misses Alice and Ida White. Visitor: Miss Ruth Jones.

Members present: Misses M. A. McGavock, Hazel Harwell, Ida White, Grace L. Harrison, Catherine Bryant, Alice White, Anna Lofton; Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Ellis, Dr. and Mrs. D. H. Turpen; Messrs. M. G. Ferguson, Calvin McKissack, Dr. C. S. Freeman and Prof. Myles.

A delightful two-course menu was served.

PUBLIC AROUSED OVER INJUSTICE.

(Continued from paye 1, Sec. II.)

order which makes life safe, you have struck a blow at the protection of every home and sacred institution.

Doubtless the men who committed this crime think they were acting in order to deter other crimes. They perhaps feel that a lynching such as this will prevent other Negroes from committing murder. But a careful study of the facts proves that lynching, instead of preventing crime, incites more crime. Every student of crime knows this is true.

Not only does a lynching provoke more crime but it debauches a certain element in the community and tends to make lynching an epidemic. History proves this: Thus, to illustrate, in Shelby county, Tennessee, there were three Negroes lynched in 1892, another Negro was lynched in the same county in 1893, and in 1894 there were six more lynched. In Lauderdale county, Tennessee, where there had never been a lynching before so far as I can ascertain, there occurred in Ripley a lynching in 1898. In 1900 there were four more lynchings, in 1903 one and in 1904 one. The first record we have of lynching in Cooke county, Tennessee, is in 1900, when a Negro was lynched in Tiptonville; another Negro was lynched in the same town in 1901, another in the same county in 1907, three more in the same town and county in 1908, and two more in the same town and county in 1910. The first record we have of lynching in Dyer county, Tennessee, was 1901, when one Negro was lynched; another lynching occurred in the same county later in 1901, and then in 1913, 1916 and 1917 there was a lynching each year in this same county.

It is as clear as a bell that lynching does not deter crime. It insults the civil laws, it debauches the community. It maddens the group to which the lynched party belongs, it brutalizes those who take part in it.

Davidson county and Nashville owe it to themselves to see that every criminal in this lynching mob is tracked down and brought to justice.

Dr. Edwin Mims, of Vanderbilt university, former secretary of the Tennessee Law and Order League—As the former secretary of the Tennessee Law and Order League—an organization that has gone out of existence because of the apparent abolishment of its primary aim, namely, to prevent lynching in this state—I am inexpressibly shocked at the outbreak of violence and brutality that occurred in Nashville last night.

Just when the South was congratulating itself on the gradual decrease of lynching, there occurs this awful crime in what we like to consider the most civilized and cultured city within its bounds.

It is a striking evidence of the fact that citizens can never afford to be in a complacent attitude of mind with regard to possible crime on the part of the mob. All the sophistries that are sometimes uttered in defense of lynching under certain circumstances vanish before this utterly indefensible action of lawless citizens.

The lynching of this boy ought to arouse every citizen to realize the blot on the civilization of Nashville. It is hoped that the governor of the state, the mayor and the sheriff will exhaust all their resources in bringing to conviction these enemies of law and order. The only way in which the state and the city can in any way atone for this breakdown of established law is to take definite action toward the arrest and conviction of these men.

We, the underaigned, as representatives of the institutions of higher education in Nashville, desire to record in the strongest possible words our condemnation of the brutal lynching that occurred in Nashville last night. Lynching is always and under all circumstances to be condemned and deplored. In this particular outbreak of mob violence all the fallacious excuses that are sometimes urged in support of lynching under particular circumstances fall to the ground. Such action on the part of a mob is the breaking down of all that educational institutions stand for, the destruction of all we hold dear in civilization. We are inexpressibly humiliated that the community in which we have worked, and to which we have given our best efforts, should have this blot upon it. We are willing to cooperate with all other agencies in the community in an effort to punish those responsible for this crime and to prevent the future occurrence of similar outbreaks.

J. H. KIRKLAND,
Chancellor Vanderbilt University.
CHARLES E. LITTLE,
George Peabody College for Teachers.
J. D. BLANTON,
President Ward Belmont School.
J. L. CUNINGGIM,

$1,650 REWARD FOR ARREST OF MOB

(Continued from page 1, Sec. I.)

wakened the grocer. The latter took his gun, and going into the yard, surprised the older Negro at work. The latter gave up without any trouble.

Left with the automobile, Sam Smith began to worry about his uncle's absence, and came down the roadway where he met Eastwood and the captured Negro.

"Is this Negro with you?" the grocer demanded of his prisoner.

"Yes," Jim answered.

"Well, step over here," Eastwood told Sam, "I'm going to put you in jail, too."

The Negro boy opened fire, the charge striking the grocer, who, though wounded, returned the shots, one taking effect as the Negro disappeared in the darkness.

Eastwood's brother came from the house and lent a hand with the captured Negro, who was brought to the county jail.

The boy was found next morning in a clump of weeds, badly wounded, and almost unconscious. He was placed in the General Hospital by Sheriff Briley, who had no facilities for caring for him at the jail.

The mob took him back to the Eastwood home Monday night and hanged him to a tree.

Virtually every civic organization in the city passed resolutions condemning the mob. The board of trustees of the Vine Street Temple took similar action Tuesday night.

In addition to the $5,000 reward offered by the Chamber of Commerce, other funds will be given by the same body, if needed to supplement the rewards that are expected to be offered by the state and county.

Committee to See Governor

In the meeting Tuesday afternoon, $1,100 was subscribed immediately, and a committee was appointed as follows to meet Governor Peay on his arrival here from the Brushy mountain prison Wednesday morning to confer with him and carry out the adopted resolutions:

C. A. Craig, Col. Luke Lea, Edward Foster, F.M. Quackenboss and W. R. Manier, Jr.

The resolutions follow:

A committee to see Gov. Austin Peay, upon his return from Brushy Mountain Wednesday was appointed, consisting of C. A. Craig, Col. Luke Lea, Edward Foster, F. M. Quackenboss and W. R. Manier, Jr. This committee will confer with the governor and carry out the resolutions passed by the board of governors, which are as follows:

"The board of governors of the Chambers of Commerce of the city of Nashville, having met on this, Dec. 16, 1924, for the purpose of considering conditions that exist in the county of Davidson and the city of Nashville in the observance and enforcement of the law, express our unqualified condemnation of the act of lynching which took place on the night of December 15, when the Negro, Samuel Smith, was taken from the City Hospital in Nashville by an armed mob and hanged.

"This act was done in definance of the law, without any measure of justification, and its perpetrators were guilty of murder and are answerable to the law as murderers. The Negro lynched was in the custody of the law, and while he had committed a grave offense and deserved the limit of the law in punishment, the law should have been enforced against him by its regular processes and not by a mob that acted in disregard and defiance of all law.

"We pledge ourselves to assist in every honorable way to bring to trial the parties guilty of the murder of this Negro, and believe that the majesty of the law must and should be upheld, and in no other way than by the trial and conviction of the perpetrators of this crime can the law be vindicated.

Will Raise $5,000.

"We therefore, pledge ourselves to raise a fund of at least $5,000 to be used by the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose (1) of offering a reward for the arrest and conviction of the criminals and (2) of employing detectives and attorneys to that end; the expenditure of the fund raised to be under the supervision of the board of governors of the Chamber of Commerce, or special committee of the Chamber of Commerce appointed for that purpose.

"Ours is a government of law, not of men. Human life in this community is no longer regarded as sacred. Too many who are guilty have escaped. Too light has been the punishment inflicted after conviction of crime. Unless there is more respect for all law and a stricter enforcement of it, the reign of law in this community will be dethroned, and crime become the rule rather than the exception among our people.

"We demand aggressive action on the part of those charged with the duty of law enforcement, to the end that all offenders against the law shall be brought to speedy trial. We pledge our willingness to serve in any capacity that good citizenship demands of us, and we offer our hearty co-operation to our criminal judges, the sheriff and his deputies, and the police of our city, to the end that lawlessness may cease, and peace and order and the strict observance and enforcement of all laws shall be brought to pass.

"We earnestly request the governor of the State of Tennessee and the mayor of the City of Nashville to supplement in an adequate manner from the state and the city the reward offered for the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, and that a committee of five be appointed to wait upon the governor and the mayor, requesting this action on their part, and to carry out the purposes of this resolution."

Burton Issues Statement.

A. M. Burton, president of the Life and Casualty Insurance Company, issued the following statement regarding the lynching:

"To my way of thinking the lynching of this little Negro is the greatest crime that has ever been committed in Nashville during the 25 years of my residence here.

"It is beyond my comprehension that this lynching could occur in the city we so proudly call "The Athens of the South."

"I believe in the sight of the Lord, each person who composed the mob has committed a much greater crime than that committed by the Negro.

"Justice demands a trial with a judge or jury to mete out due penalty for the crime committed.

"State, county and city officials should use all their power and authority to prosecute the offenders to the full extent of the law.

"A. M. BURTON."

County officers, in a search for clues, were looking for a witness Tuesday night who is said to have seen a string of approximately ten automobiles leaving the City Hospital at the time of the lynching.

The officers discount a statement that "30 automobiles" were in the procession, and believe that when the mob is finally run to earth it will be shown to have consisted of less than a dozen men.

CITY CONDEMNS LYNCHING OF BOY

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. 2.)

all the following excuses that are sometimes urged in support of lynching under particular circumstances fall to the ground. Such action on the part of a mob is the breaking down of all that educational institutions stand for, the destruction of all we hold dear in our civilization. We are inexpressibly humiliated that the community in which we have worked, and to which we have given our best efforts, should have this blot upon it. We are willing to cooperate with all other agencies in the community in an effort to punish those responsible for this crime and to prevent the future occurrence of similar outbreaks.

Dr. Edwin Mims of Vanderbilt University, former secretary of the Tennessee Law and Order League, gave out this morning the following statement:

"As the former Secretary of the Tennessee Law and Order League—an organization that has gone out of existence because of the apparent accomplishment of its primary aim, namely to prevent lynching in this state—I am inexpressibly shocked at the outbreak of violence and brutality tha occurred in Nashville last night.

"Just when the South was congratulating itself on the gradual decrease of lynching, there occurs this awful crime in what we like to consider the civilized and cultured city in the South.

"It is a striking evidence of the fact that citizens can never afford to be in a complacent attitude of mind with regards to possible crime on the part of the mob. All the sophistries that are sometimes uttered in defense of lynching under certain circumstances vanish before this utterly indefensible action of lawless citizens. The lynching of this boy ought to arouse every citizen to realize the blot on the civilizaion of Nashville. It is hoped that the Governor of the State, the Mayor and the Sheriff will exhaust all their resources in brining to arrest, and conviction these enemies of law and order. The only way in which the state and the city can in any way atone for this breakdown of established law is to take definite action toward the arrest and conviction of these men.

The following statemen was issued by W. D. Weatherford, chairman of the Tennessee state inter-racial committee:

"For the first time in 30 years, Nashville and Davidson county have had their record blackened by a lynching The deed is all the more hideous because a wounded Negro boy was taken from a hospital bed and riddled with bullets before the law could have a chance to act. The humaneness of the law was giving the boy a chance for medical treatment before it brought him to the bar of justice.

"Six armed men with handkerchiefs tied over their faces have not only shot a Negro boy to death, but they have murdered the spirit of obedience to law in the hearts of hundreds of people, they have insulted our civil government and done all they could to debauch the moral sense of our boys and girls. They have committed a greater crime than did the Negro boy, for they have broken down respect for law and respect for life. They have exposed every good citizen to criticism and made life less secure for all. When you strike a blow at the social order which makes life safe, you have struck a blow at the protection of every home and every sacred institution.

"Doubtless the men who committed this crime think they were acting in order to deter other crimes. They perhaps feel that a lynching such as this will prevent other Negroes from committing murder. But a careful study of the facts proves that lynching instead of preventing crime, incites more crime. Every student of crime knows this is true.

Provokes More Crime.

Not only does a lynching provoke more crime, but it debauches a certain element in the community and tends to make lynchings an epidemic. History proves this: Thus, to illustrate, in Shelby Co., Tenn., there were three Negroes lynched in the same Co., in 1892, another Negro was lynched in the same Co., in 1893 and in 1894 there were six more lynched. In Lauderdale Co., Tennessee, where there had never been lynching before, so far as I can ascertain, there occurred in Ripley a lynching in 1898. In 1900 there were four more lynchings, in 1903 one, and in 1904 one. The first record we have of lynching in Cooke county, Tennessee, is in 1900, when a Negro was lynched in Tiptonville; another Negro was lynched in the same town in 1901, another in the same county 1907, three more in the same town and county in 1908, and two more in the same town and county in 1910. The first record we have of lynching in Dyer county, Tennessee, was 1901, when one Negro was lynched; another lynching occurred in the same county later in 1901, and then to 1913, 1916 and 1917 there was a lynching each year in this same county.

"It is as clear as a bell that lynching does not deter crime, it insults the civil laws, it debauches the community. It maddens the group to which the lynched party belongs, it brutalizes those who take part in it.

"Davidson county and Nashville owe it to themselves to see that every criminal in this lynching mob is tracked down and brought to justice."

The following is a statement from Col. Luke Lea, publisher of The Tennessean:

"All citizens of Nashville who believe in the supremacy of the law the lynching which occurred Monday night.

"The era of lawlessness which is prevailing, not only in Nashville but throughout the country, is always strengthened and prolonged, where an attempt is made to prevent it and to punish the law violators by any group of individuals attempting to place themselves above the law and to take the law's administration into their own hands.

Send Letter to Peay

Seventeen of the most prominent citizens of Nashville addressed a letel Tuesday to Gov. Austin Peay and Sheriff Bob Briley, asking that all the powers of their respective offices be bent towards ferreting out the men who composed the mob and bringing them to justice. The governor could not be reached Tuesday as he was attending a session of the state pardon and parole board at Brushy Mountain prison in East Tennessee.

The letter to the governor and the sheriff is as follows:

"The brutal violence of the mob which last night dragged a defenseless Negro from the hospital and murdered him has not only added to the difficulties and responsibilities of the office you fill, it has made you the two men who can do most to redeem Nashville and Tennessee from the disgrace inflicted upon them by this mob. To you, as governor of Tennessee, and as sheriff of Davidson county, the law-abiding and law-loving people of the county or the state must look to see that the members of this mob are not allowed to escape the just penalties of their crime, but are apprehended, brought to trial and made to answer to justice for this outrage against the law and against the good name of our city and our state.

"It is inconceivable that the men who did this deed cannot be found if a determined effort is made to find them and to bring them to justice. We have an opportunity which no one else can have to discourage future mob violence and to protect the good name of the state and of the South. It is our trust that you will use all the power of your offices to accomplish these ends, and we, as citizens of Nashville, stand ready to render you every assistance we can give until this crime against us all has been punished.

"Very respectfully yours,

"B. Kirk Rankin, W. R. Cole, Eustice A. Hall, Luke Lea, Paul M. Davis, P. D. Houston, J. H. Ambrose, G. P. Hope, Walter Keith, J. S. McHenry, D. F. C. Reeves, Geo. A. Schwab, Paul A. Stumb, Jos. T. Howell, W. N. Crutchfield, H. L. Williamson, Chas. S. Martin."

Mayor's Statement

"The lynching of Sam Smith last night was one of the most deplorable things to happen in Nashville in many years," said Mayor Hilary E. Howse, Tuesday morning.

"It was an outrage on decency and law and order for a band of masked men to enter a hospital in the manner and for the purpose of those men last night, no matter what the circumstances.

"I have asked for a report from the hospital of what occurred there, and have ordered an investigation, and by tomorrow I will have a statement to make of how I feel about that sort of thing."

Ministers Ask Justice

That the authorities will use every means at their disposal to punish the participators in Monday night's lynching was the hope expressed by the members of the Ministerial Alliance, which was called for a special meeting following the Billy Sunday noonday meeting at the Princess Theater, their statement follows:

"We have learned with inexpressible regret and shame of the stain that has been put upon the city, the bitter affront dealt the law-abiding and Christian sentiment of the community, and the wanton assault on justice, peace and civilized public opinion, in the taking of the life of a human being by a lawless mob. That the victim was a youth of only fifteen, wounded and helpless in a hospital, and a member of the colored race, is an incident that adds the stain of dastardly cowardice to that of murder.

"It is with profound sorrow and humiliation that we face this outrage and realize that it is an unenviable contribution of a city of churches and schools, to the red record of lawlessness that has so long cursed our land.

"It is our hope and expectation that the authorities will use every means at their disposal to mete out punishment to those guilty of this outrage, and to clear the fair name of the community from any suspicion of indifference or toleration, in this crime."

"Every man who participated in that lynching should be brought before the courts on a charge of premediated murder," such was the opinion of Dr. George Stoves, pastor of the West End Church, when asked his views concerning the lynching Monday night.

"Deplorable—absolutely deplorable. Crime should be punished; and the lynching is unfortunate. I hope respect for law will never be violated again—Nashville is freer from race prejudice than any city I ever saw," said Dr. W. F. Powell.

"It is a tragedy," said Dr. John D. Freman of the Belmont Heights Baptist Church, "Mob violence should be put to an end."

"A shame to the citizenship of Tennessee which can only be atoned for by the most vigorous efforts to apprehend and punish the criminals." was the expression of Dr. E. P. Dandridge, rector of Christ church.

"I want to see justice prevail, regardless of race, and I deplore what has happened at Davidson county the fair name of the state will be the target from all parts of the nation," said Dr. W. D. Burton.

"I am going to attend the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, said Dr. Carey Morgan, "for religion and citizenship must stand together and such things should be prevented and public expression be made against them."

At a special called session of the Secretarial Conference of the Board of M. E. Church, South, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Board Condemns Lynching

"We have learned with inexpressible regret and shame of the stain that has been put upon our city, the bitter affront dealt the law-abiding and Christian sentiment of the community, and the wanton assault on the bullet wounds and not from hanging. The body of the Negro was lifted about two feet from the ground and the cotton plow-line with which he was suspended, was tied along the limb. The fatal shots were fired from the roadside as soon as the body had been secured, according to indications.

About 30 cars were thought to have been in the mob that surrounded the city hospital. Only a half dozen armed and masked men entered the hospital and ordered the authorities, at the points of the guns, to stay in their places. Wires were cut that cut off outside telephone connections and the search for the Negro conducted by a few masked men.

Miss Amy Weagle, nurse on duty in the ward where Smith was confined, attempted to hide the chains that bound the Negro's ankles after she had defied the men and refused to reveal his identity. Larry Hardeman, in charge of the hospital, was held at the point of a shotgun in his office while the men sought the Negro. The cars waited outside and fell into the procession that led out Wharf avenue toward the Nolensville pike, according to hospital witnesses. No other person that saw the mob other than the hospital employes has been found.

BAPTIST MINISTERS TAKE ACTION.

(Continued from Page 1. Sec. 2.)

Be it resolved that we do here and now condemn the atrocity in the form of a lynching committed in this city on last Monday.

We call upon the Governor of the state, the Sheriff of the county, the Mayor of the city and the people in general to cooperate in seeing to it that the criminals, the murderers, the midnight marauders, are hunted down and brought to justice.

Be it further resolved that we commend the good citizens of Nashville, who have expressed their disapproval and who are opposed to such lawlessness, and

Be it further resolved that we here and now register our protest against all such crime and criminals, and pledge ourselves to see that they are run down, apprehended and prosecuted.

Baptist Ministers Alliance:
J. B. RIDLEY, President
J. W. PITT, Secretary
J. L. HARDING,
President Baptist State Convention
H. A. ALFRED,
Moderator Stone River Association
H. M. BURNS, Secretary, State Convention.

ROCK CITY ACADEMY OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY CONDEMNS LYNCHING.

To the Nashville Globe.—Nashville, Tenn., December 17, 1924.—Whereas on Monday night, December the 15th, 1924, a mob of savage, brutal and cowardly midnight assassins entered the sacred precincts of the General Hospital in the city of Nashville, terrorized the nurse there on duty, snatched the pitiable, wounded, shackled and dying body of a fifteen year old child from a cot to which he had been bound by the majesty of the law, and carried this helpless creature several miles out on the pike and in cold blood shot and hanged him to death.

And Whereas, all the circumstances surrounding this diabolical deed, as well as conditions which have existed for sometime past, proved beyond any doubt whatever that this crime was not committed against the criminal, but against the Negro race.

And Whereas, the city of Nashville, so long vaunted as the "Athens of the South" and pointed out as a city in which the best of inter-racial goodfeeling exists, has, in many instances, been a hotbed of unfair discrimination and injustice behind the scenes, as has been shown from time to time by the outrages committed against colored persons upon the street cars of the city, and by bullying and drunken city and county officers, clothed with brief authority, and by the unpunished murderers of Negroes, who brazenly walk the city's streets.

We denounce as unspeakable brutes and sneaking, spineless cowards, the villians who desecrated a sacred hospital, butchered a helpless child, assaulted the entire Negro race, and flaunted themselves in the face of Law and Order and Decency,

And we, as law-abiding citizens and tax payers, invoke action and not simply words, from the officers and citizens of this city and county, to the end that justice shall be meted out to these criminals, and to the end that it may not be necessary for us and our followers to begin an exodus from this lawless section to a land made more congenial and safe by the supremacy of law and order.

Rock City Academy of Medicine and Surgery. Committee:
W. W. SUMLIN, M. D.
R. H. VOORHEES, D. D. S.
W. E. A. FORDE, M. D.
F. A. STEWART, M. D.
J. A. McMILLAN, M. D.

MT. OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OPPOSED TO MOBS AND LAWLESSNESS

To the Nashville Globe.—The Mt. Olive Baptist Church of the unincorporated Convention, representing a large portion of the Negro citizens of the city, desire to express ourselves through the columns of your paper, that the public might know that the Negro citizens of Nashville are indignant and ashamed of the outrage perpetrated against the laws of the state in which we live, and upon a lad of 15 years belonging to our race, who was taken from a hospital in the city, in a dying condition, stripped of his clothing, hanged in a tree, while cruel, savage men, riddled his body with bullets. We like to think of the men who legislate for us, and under whose protection we are, as brave men. They who would take the life of a man of any race by the mob rule 1 coward sethihe(flvM the mob rule is a coward; much more so when it comes to a wounded, helpless, dying child.

The Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church of Nashville, deplores this action and we bow our heads in shame at the thought of such savagery in this Christian land. We further desire to express our appreciation and hearty approval of the steps taken by the good Christian white citizens who are urging, not only by writing resolutions, but by pledging their moral and financial support to have the perpetrators of the atrocious crime, brought to the bar of justice.

We are favorably impressed with the forward steps taken by the sheriff, the mayor and the governor.

When men like these, together with a determined citizenship, put their feet on lawlessness until cruel men take notice, there will be no real need of establishing a hospital in the jail. Mobs are not going to disturb the folk if they are ever convinced that the citizens don't like it and the law makers are not going to stand for it. All we have as citizens of this commonwealth is at your disposal.

The Nashville Baptist Ministers' Conference of the Unincorporated Convention,

J. B. RIDLEY, Chairman

ADDRESSES CHICAGO MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

Sunday School Congress Secretary Pays Compliment To Ministers Of The Windy City.

Chicago, Ill—Special to Nashville Globe "If we have any leaders at all and if we are to be represented before the bar of public opinion we must admit that our ministes are our leaders. You are God's chosen people. You were commissioned to go into all the world and preach the gospel. I am glad to say that I find you here at your task, performing your duty and carrying out the great commission as God has given you strength and opportunity to do. I congratulate you because I know the obstacles that confront you and the many disadvantages which many of you have labored under, especially the Baptist ministers. We are not being paid for the services that we render, the salaries are not adequate in keeing with their position and are not commeasurate with their standing in the community, and does not comport with that passage of scripture, which if I do not misquote says, The Laborer is Worthy of His Hire. I believe that the time is not far distant when the churches will recognize the value of God's messengers and ministers to the extent that they will provide for you the first fruits so that you and your family will abundantly be cared for I bring you congratulations from the National Baptist Publishing Board at Nashville. I thank you for the loyalty and support that you have given I am asking an interest in your prayers, because most of you loved my father, believed in him and supported him. I am therefore asking that you transfer some of the affection that you had for him to his son, as I am much in need of your advice, your safe counsel, your fervent prayers and your support." These are excrepts taken from the talk made by Revi. Henry Allen Boyd, Secretary of the Sunday School Congress and National Baptist Publishing Board to the Baptist Minister's Alliance, when he was presented by Dr. E. W. Hawthorne the presiding officer. After he had finished his remarks he was given a rising vote of thanks. The conference pledged hearty support. After the conference adjouned the Rev. Mr. Boyd was invited to attend the general couference meeting on Indiana near 33rd, where the Baptists of all conventional persuasion were present. Dr. Daniel Payne Jones spoke briefly and was followed by Rev. Mr. Boyd. Dr. C. H. Clark made a timely speech telling of his twenty years association with the late R. H. Boyd, the founder of the Publishing Plant.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ARCHIVES

He Has No Time to Hate

By W. O. Saunders

IT WAS in the feverish days of the war. Down in Mississippi a report got abroad that the Germans were inciting the Negroes of the South to insurrection. There, where the blacks then outnumbered the whites, this was cause for genuine alarm.

A troop of white boys happened one night to ride by a Negro church where a meeting was going on. They stopped and listened. A black man, Laurence Jones, was talking to his people. He was saying: "Life is a battle in which every negro must gird on his armor and fight to survive and succeed." The eavesdroppers heard the words "fight" and "armor." Enough. They rode off, reported what they had heard, added to it, and a mob gathered at the church.

Jones was called out; the boys identified him. The leaders stepped forward and put a noose around his neck. They dragged him a mile or more up the road, the mob recruiting strength as it went, under a tree faggots were piled. The end of the rope was tossed over a limb and Jones flung upon the pile of faggots. The noose tightened around his neck, but someone, thinking the fun still too tame, loosened the rope and ordered Jones to stand on the pyre and make them a speech.

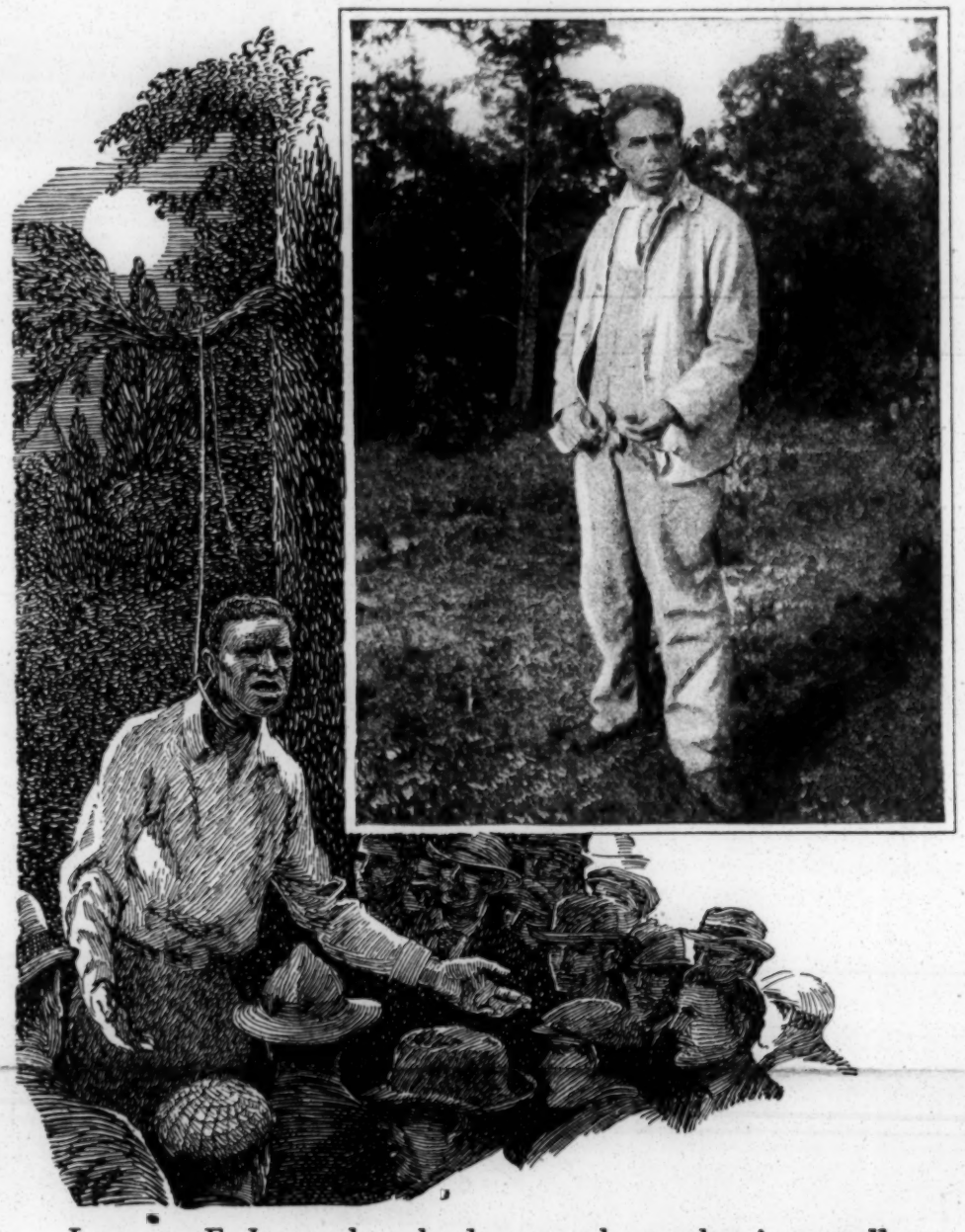
"I never made such a speech in my life," says Jones. "I told them the story of my life and my ambition. I told them of the work I was doing and hoped to do. I told them anecdotes, some to make them laugh, others to make them weep. Finally I told them of white men who knew me and would vouch for me. Then an old Confederate veteran stepped up and said: 'I believe this boy is telling the truth; I know every one of the men whose names he has mentioned.'"

The noose was removed from his neck; a man with tears in his eyes passed a hat around and took up a collection of $50 for Piney Woods Country Life School.

Who is Jones?

Laurence E. Jones was born at St. Joseph, Mo., in 1884. He was educated in the public schools of Iowa and was the only Negro in his class in the high school at Marshallburg. He went to a white man's college and was graduated with honors. He had abounding health, a passion for work, a smile that instantly won friends, and the ability to speak and write entertainingly. He might have been a preacher, a lawyer, a writer, or a business man. But he turned his back on all these things. He had read "Robinson Crusoe" and the life of Booker T. Washington.

By the life of Washington he was fired with zeal to do something for the uplift of his backward people. The story of Robinson Crusoe had opened his eyes to the possibilities in being stranded in a wilderness and making with his own hands everything that he needed. With the successes of Booker T. Washington and Robinson Crusoe to inspire him, Lawrence Jones put the best of civilization behind him and headed for the Black Belt of Mississippi.



Laurence E. Jones, the schoolmaster who teaches in overalls

HE ARRIVED at Jackson, Miss., fifteen years ago, without a penny in his pockets. Pawning his watch for $2.50, he bought a ticket for Braxton, a station in the wilderness twenty-three miles below Jackson, and there he worked and labored among the most ignorant, poverty-stricken, squalid, and superstitious of his race for two years, talking to them about the good of education and trying to interest them in the beginning of a school. There were 14,294 Negroes in Rankin County where he settled, and across the line in Simpson County were 5,969 more. A blacker, smellier, more burr-headed and more densely ignorant group of Negroes existed nowhere in America.

For two years Laurence Jones labored with these humble black folks without success. Then one day on a hillside he opened school. He had seen that getting a building to start in was out of the question, so there on a hillside, under the low-spreading branches of a venerable cedar, he opened his school.

Gradually the Negroes developed interest in education and faith in their new leader. The cedar tree stood on lands belonging to Ed Taylor, an ex-slave. Near by was a tumble-down log cabin inhabited by owls and bats. Old Ed had been up No'th and he had seen what education could do. He not only presently gave Jones 40 acres of his woodland, but $50 in cash besides. With this $50 Jones put a roof on the cabin, and the first building unit of Piney Woods Country Life School was dedicated in 1910.

The rest was comparatively easy. To-day Jones counts as his friends the best white families in that part of Mississippi.

"The best Southern white men are the Negro's best friends," says Jones "and the only reason they haven't expressed their friendship for the Negro by giving him education is that the Negro himself hasn't wanted education and the white people just naturally fell into the opinion that he didn't need it and couldn't make use of it."

Piney Woods School never closes; to make every moment count the summer students arise at four o'clock in the morning and are in class at five. After 7 A. M. Jones releases them from classes and puts them to work in shop and field. At noon they rest and take a nap, going back to shop and field later in the afternoon and working until sundown.

I visited Piney Woods Country Life School at Braxton on Commencement Day. The student band played a lively air while 200-odd students in double file marched into the auditorium. The students were paired off male and female. First came the graduating class. The girls were dressed in new, dainty, hand-embroidered muslin dresses. The boys wore overalls and denim shirts that had been immaculately laundered.

I FOLLOWED the crowd into the auditorium, and beheld something new in commencement exercises. The stage and a platform in front of the stage represented a hive of industry. There were a sewing machine, a typewriter, an adding machine, a miniature store with its scales and cash register; a cream separator and churn, a hand loom, laundry devices, a forge, bricks and mortar, lumber and carpenter's tools, a pile of corn shucks, a bottomless chair, a model kitchen, and a homemade electric light and water plant.

The graduating class went to work. One girl prepared and cooked a meal, another made a dress, another took the pile of corn shucks and wove them into a seat for the bottomless chair. Other girls busied themselves in the making of a rag rug. Others washed and ironed, wrought wonderful baskets out of pine needles, or with clays and colored wax converted fruit jars and old bottles into colorful decorative objects to brighten humble homes.

The boys in overalls took the bricks and mortar and made them into an ornamental fireplace, and with sand and cement made more bricks. Another fashioned a horseshoe at the roaring forge and shod a mule. Another milked a cow, others separated the cream from the milk and churned it into butter.

A black, woolly-headed boy started up his homemade electric light and water plant. Water poured from the pumps and forty 50-watt bulbs in the auditorium glowed with unflickering light. The boy's name was Jasper McAfee. He had built his plant from a scrapped automobile engine, an old concrete mixer, and a discarded generator.

A small, compact, straight-limbed sinewy Negro in overalls addressed the audience. He told how from humble beginnings Piney Woods Country Life School had grown to an institution with buildings valued at more than $100,000 and with 1,500 acres of land of its own. The brick in five of the buildings was made and the buildings erected by student labor with outside help. The speaker was Laurence E. Jones, principal of the school. He spoke briefly, modestly; nothing in his speech indicated the real story of his career.

Through this Piney Woods Country School, Laurence E. Jones is carrying 300-odd boys and girls, sending them out as teachers and home builders, equipped to do for themselves and show their less fortunate kind how to do. With the help of his wife, he has carried extension work into every county in the Black Belt, and Mrs. Jones has organized thousands of Negro men in club work for better schools, better homes, better living and race progress for every Negro in Mississippi.

There have been troublous days, yes, and Jones has endured many injustices with a patience as sublime as that he revealed when he came so near being lynched. But he wins in every crisis. With his boyish smile he tells you: "I have no time to quarrel, no time for regrets; and no man can make me stoop so low as to make me hate him."

With a noose around his neck and facing an angry mob, Laurence E. Jones made a speech. And it was a good one. At first his hearers only laughed. They ended by giving him $50 and letting him go. To-day, like other similarly fearless, self-sacrificing men, Jones is trying to make the race problem a thing of the past. He is doing it through sensible education.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED OR REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY

OUR CONSUL LYNCHED IN PERSIA

AN "INTERNATIONAL BOMBSHELL" has "dropt, screeching," into the streets of Teheran, we are told, and "its roar is heard in all lands where ancient gods, black, yellow and red, wag their heads solemnly in the temples of ancient faiths, because they know that it is not good to lay violent hands on the children of the lightning." In these and similar phrases, the Albany *Knickerbocker Press* comments upon the killing of the American vice-consul, Major Robert Imbrie, in the Persian capital. The shock will be felt elsewhere, thinks the Kansas City *Star*, which sees in the affair sufficient proof that the plea for the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations is "based upon mistaken assumptions." As *The Star* contends, "the Eastern and Western worlds are opposite poles of thought and feeling. They can not be brought together by any of the artifices of politics or statesmen." At all events, cabled accounts of the murder emphasize the extreme oriental character of its circumstances. A dispatch from Teheran to the Associated Press informs us that investigation has shown that the assault "occurred in a crowded thoroughfare and, altho it is declared that numbers of armed police and soldiers were present, it does not appear that a shot was fired in defense of the victims. It is even alleged that soldiers formed a part of the mob." As the report goes on to say, "the attack occurred at about 11 A. M., when the American consul and Melvin Seymour were driving past a fountain which is reverenced by masses of Persians daily and which at the moment was surrounded by a throng of worshippers." Then—

"The Americans alighted from their carriage a short distance away, and Mr. Imbrie held up a camera to photograph the scene. The crowd objected and surged toward the Americans, who seeing the menacing attitude of the throng, jumped into their carriage and drove away. The crowd followed, shouting imprecations and accusing the two Americans of being Bahais (members of a universal religious movement which originated in Persia three-quarters of a century ago), and of poisoning the water of the fountain.

"Mr. Imbrie was dragged out on one side of the carriage by the mob and Seymour on the other. Mr. Imbrie valiantly defended himself with his cane until he was struck on the head by a military sword. He attempted to rise, but was knocked down again by a huge stone, which broke his jaw.

"Meanwhile, Seymour was struck from all sides and dragged into the Cossack parade ground.

"A detachment of police finally succeeded in getting both the injured men into an automobile and took them to the Police Hospital. The crowd followed and broke into the building, smashing doors and windows, and committed further assaults on Mr. Imbrie, who died at three o'clock that afternoon."

Mr. Seymour, tho badly hurt, escaped with his life. That Imbrie's "own disregard of danger undoubtedly figured in the case" is the opinion of the Manchester *Union*, which tells us:

"He failed to attach sufficient importance to native prejudices, and especially to the popular objection to the photographing of sacred places. It may be added that letters he wrote soon after his arrival in Persia betokened much liking for the people. 'I began to feel,' he declared, 'when I saw men wearing knives that at last we were in a he-country. We had rather poor luck, not being held up or shot at, but aside from that had a very good trip.' He appears to have gone about fearlessly, tho other foreign representatives in the city made it a point to wear distinctive uniforms and to have an armed escort at their heels. One account of the mob's attack on Imbrie and his companion has it that the major was wearing a Persian cap which led his assailants to mistake him for a member of a rival sect."

Photograph by Underwood & Underwood

THE CONSUL WHO WAS KILLED

Maj. Robert Imbrie, American Vice-Consul at Teheran, Persia, whose death at the hands of a mob on July 18 brought a sharp warning from our State Department and apologies and reparations from Persia.

For us, it is a "lesson in mob law," reflects the Macon *Telegraph*, "a lesson of what an American citizen, even an American official far from home and in the land of another people, can suffer in the way of mob violence."

The Asheville (N. C.) *Times* assures us that "there is no reason for assuming that the mob assaulted the vice-consul and his companion because they were Americans," and, while some correspondents refer to a growing hostility against foreigners, this, as the Springfield *Republican* remarks, is said to relate principally to the British:

"Great Britain before the war was associated with Russia in the partition of Persia, and since Russia under the Soviets entered into friendly relations with Persia whatever hostility survives would naturally center on the British. Until recently Americans were highly popular in Persia because of the services of Morgan Shuster, who was successfully reorganizing the finances of the country when he was forced out by the jealousy of Russian and British interests. In recent years the international relations of Persia have centered on oil, and it is possible that the old friendly feeling for America has suffered a change. However, it is probably a mere coincidence that Imbrie's companion, Seymour, was an oil-driller, who by one account had been involved in a labor conflict in the oil-fields and had been paroled after being sentenced to confinement by the United States consular court."

Such outrages as the murder of Major Imbrie "have heretofore been made the basis of territorial seizures, the domination of governments, and other important changes," observes the Boston *Transcript*, which adds,

"Russia, France and Great Britain are all exercising all kinds of pressure in that part of the world, with the Persian oil-fields as the prize in the game. All that America wants, in the matter of oil in that part of the world, is the open door and no assumption of exclusive ownership. We shall not mix oil with our case at Teheran, but it may be of some all-around advantage to have a competent investigator at the Persian capital."

However, as a Washington dispatch to the New York *Times* informs us, the affair has called forth "one of the strongest diplomatic notes the State Department has dispatched in recent years" and threats of a rupture of diplomatic relations. Persia yields at every point, and, as the Teheran correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* reports,

"Persia agrees to pay the charges of an American warship which will be sent for Major Imbrie's body, stating that it would have used a Persian warship had it possest one. Full military honors will be rendered. A pension will be given to Mrs. Imbrie and the American Legation will be provided with a stronger guard.

"The American Minister is assured that those responsible for the crime will be properly punished. Some of the guilty have been arrested, while others are being taken every day. The reply thanks America for the friendly spirit of the note."

LYNCHING—AMERICA'S NATIONAL DISGRACE

By JAMES WELDON JOHNSON

Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; author of "Fifty Years and Other Poems," "The Book of American Negro Poetry" and other works

History of American lynching, its causes and its remedy—An instrument used to terrorize and enslave the negro population—The truth about raping—Mob atrocities a menace to civilization—Public opinion and the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill

THE standard book on lynching, J. E. Cutler's "Lynch-Law," speaks of it as "a criminal practice which is peculiar to the United States." This definition was true when Cutler's book was published, not quite twenty years ago, and it still is true. The origin of the term is doubtful. To various Colonels and civilians named Lynch is ascribed the doubtful honor of establishing this form of crime in our country, in Revolutionary times, when the absence of courts of justice in country districts and the turmoil of American political upheaval caused men to band together for the maintenance of order, or for purposes of vengeance. Something not far from lynching occurred during the early wars with the Indians on the American Continent, and it may be said that this form of mob action is truly characteristic of uncivilized communities. Where society is still in the frontier stage, the settlement of disputes is left to individuals or groups of individuals. Thus in early days the bands of "regulators" notified undesirable characters to leave the community, prosecuted horse thieves and, in Revolutionary days especially, flogged Tories and tarred and feathered "informers," viz., persons accused of reporting American smuggling to the British authorities.

The term lynching, as used in those days, did not apply, as it does now, exclusively to the infliction of the death penalty. The usual penalty inflicted by the self-constituted courts was a severe flogging and a warning to leave the community, followed by severer punishment in case the warnings were not heeded. With the agitation for the abolition of slavery, lynching began to be an element in what has since crystallized into the race problem. Slave insurrections, notably the Nat Turner rebellion, were punished with the utmost severity and those suspected of having a share in them were often executed, shot, hanged, or even burned, without any form of trial. The abolitionists themselves met with mob action, as is well known, and in 1836, for denouncing the burning alive of a colored man who had been taken by a mob from jail in St. Louis, the Rev. E. P. Lovejoy had his printing office destroyed by a mob and met death at the hands of a mob in 1837. Cutler quotes Abraham Lincoln on "The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions," an address containing a passage which well applies to our day. Speaking of the spread of mob atrocities throughout the country, Lincoln said:

> It would be tedious as well as useless to recount the horrors of all of them. Those happening in the State of Mississippi and at St. Louis are perhaps the most dangerous in example and revolting to humanity. In the Mississippi case they first commenced by hanging the regular gamblers—a set of men certainly not following for a livelihood a very useful or very honest occupation, but one which, so far from being forbidden by the laws, was actually licensed by an act of the Legislature passed but a single year before. Next, negroes suspected of conspiring to raise an

> insurrection were caught up and hanged in all parts of the State; then, white men supposed to be leagued with the negroes; and finally, strangers from neighboring States, going thither on business, were in many cases subjected to the same fate. Thus went on this process of hanging, from gamblers to negroes, from negroes to white citizens, and from these to strangers, till dead men were literally dangling from the boughs of trees on every roadside, and in numbers almost sufficient to rival the native Spanish moss of the country as a drapery of the forest.

Lynching accompanied the border troubles that preceded the Civil War, especially on the dark and bloody soil of Kansas, but the recrudescence of lynching, in its present form, dates from the period of Reconstruction, following the Civil War. Much of the violence and terrorism of those days was due to the then first organized Ku Klux Klan. This body was dissolved in March, 1869, by proclamation of its Grand Wizard, and actually exterminated by the Federal Force bill of 1871, which placed under the jurisdiction of Federal Courts the Ku Klux outrages against freedmen and Northerners and Southerners accused of favoring Reconstruction.

THE NEGRO TERRORIZED

Lynching was an instrument in driving the negro out of politics in the South, after the Reconstruction period. More lynchings took place in the five-year period falling between 1889-1893 than in any subsequent period covering the same amount of time. Lynching was not only—as it still continues to be—an instrument for terrorizing negroes, keeping them from voting and in the position of "inferior"; it has become as well an instrument of economic exploitation, reinforcing peonage in the cotton-raising sections of the country, making it almost hopeless in many sections for colored men even to ask for simple justice, as many prominent white Southerners have publicly admitted. Governor Hugh M. Dorsey of Georgia on April 22, 1921, made a statement to a conference of citizens of that State dealing with the following phases of the problem: (a) The negro lynched; (b) the negro held in peonage; (c) the negro driven out by organized lawlessness; (d) the negro subject to individual acts of cruelty. The Governor's statement, which cited 135 cases of mistreatment of negroes in Georgia in the two preceding years, contained the following striking paragraphs:

> In some counties the negro is being driven out as though he were a wild beast. In others he is being held as a slave. In others, no negroes remain. In only two of the 135 cases cited is the "usual crime" against white women involved.
>
> As Governor of Georgia, I have asked you, as citizens having the best interests of the State at heart, to meet here today to confer with me as to the best course to be taken. To me it seems that we stand indicted as a people before the world. If the conditions indicated by these charges should continue, both God and man would justly condemn Georgia more severely than man and God have condemned Belgium and Leopold for the Congo atrocities. But worst than that condemnation would be the destruction of our civilization by the continued toleration of such cruelties in Georgia.

The first issue to be met in any discussion of contemporary American lynching is the question of "the usual crime," for the justification of lynching in the last thirty years has been based upon the contention that only by the summary and brutal method of mob murder could white women be protected from attacks of colored men. "To punish rape" has been the justification in face of persistent investigation and publication of the facts.

TRUTH ABOUT "THE USUAL CRIME"

Those facts, collected in "Thirty Years of Lynching," a statistical study based upon The Chicago Tribune's figures and other sources, and published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people, are as follows: During the thirty-year period, 1889-1918, less than one-fifth of the colored men done to death by lynching mobs were even accused of "the usual crime," and in that period fifty colored and eleven white women were lynched. It should be borné in mind that a mob's accusation is not by any means equivalent to conviction, or even to an indictment for crime by a regularly constituted jury. In fact, in a number of cases in which investigators were sent to the scene of lynchings by the National Association for the Advancement of Col-

ored People, their reports showed that the victim's guilt had not only not been proved, but that he was actually innocent of the crime charged. To take a recent five-year period, that of 1914-18, the number of negroes lynched in the United States, exclusive of those killed at East St. Louis in the riot, was 264. In only twenty-eight cases, or slightly more than one-tenth of the lynchings, was rape assigned as the cause.

If we compare these figures with the record for New York County, which is only a part of New York City, we find that in this one county, in the single year 1917, there were 230 persons indicted for rape, of whom thirty-seven were indicted for rape in the first degree. That is, in just a part of New York City, nine more persons were indicted for rape in the first degree than there were negroes lynched on the charge of rape throughout the entire United States in a five-year period. Not one of the thirty-seven persons indicted in New York County was a negro.

To draw the comparison still closer it must be remembered that the evidence required by the Grand Jury of New York County to indict a person on the charge of rape must be more conclusive than the evidence required by or submitted to a lynching mob. The New York Grand Jury requires corroboration, direct or circumstantial; the unsupported word of a woman is not sufficient. The mob does not even require, in most cases, that the woman be certain as to the identity of the accused man.

I might add further that in 1911, when the Congressional Commission on Immigration made its study of crime in the United States, and investigated 2,262 cases in the New York Court of General Sessions, it found that the percentage of rape was lower for the negro than for either the foreign or native born whites. The actual figures were, for foreign-born whites, 1.8; for native-born whites, .8, and for negroes, .5. If to the figures for New York City were added the figures of other large cities in the country, the rape record of the American negro would dwindle into insignificance.

So much, then, for the lie that the negro is by nature a rapist, or that he is more disposed to commit this crime than any other race, and that lynching is punishment for that crime. Fifteen years of investigation, made often at the risk of the investigator's life, and publication of the facts by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have done much to clear away this myth.

MENACE TO CIVILIZATION

Meanwhile the task has been to acquaint the American public with the facts, emphasizing not only the barbarities that have accompanied the doing to death of people often innocent, but also the menace that lynching and mob violence hold for all organized government and civilized society. It is perhaps no longer necessary to dwell on the horrible brutalities in which lynching mobs indulge, the mutilation of victims, tortures applied such as shame the devices of savage and uncivilized peoples, the public burning at the stake, before audiences of men, women, and even children, of human beings. Eight colored men were publicly burned in the United States in the year 1922, and of the fifty-three other victims of American lynching mobs in that year the bodies of three were publicly burned after the victims had been done to death. So late as 1921 the country was treated to the horrible spectacle of newspapers announcing that a man was to be burned in public, giving the time and place where the event was to take place, and, after the burning, regaling their readers with every horrible detail of the affair. I refer to the burning alive of Henry Lowry, which took place at Nodena, Ark., on the night of Jan. 26, 1921, and was fully reported, before and after, in The Memphis Press and The News Scimitar.

Of the menace of this sort of thing to the souls of the people who take part in it and witness it, no warning can be too strong. The psychiatrist, Dr. A. A. Brill, lecturer at New York University, has declared that no one can take part in a lynching or witness it and remain thereafter a psychically normal human being. Of the effect upon the children witnessing such brutal scenes it is hardly necessary to speak. Two Presidents in recent years have spoken of the danger of lynching to

society and the nation. President Wilson, in a pronouncement on lynching and mob violence, published July 26, 1918, spoke of the situation as one which "vitally affects the honor of the nation and the very character and integrity of our institutions." In the course of that pronouncement President Wilson said: "There have been lynchings, and every one of them has been a blow at the heart of ordered law and humane justice. No man who loves America, no man who really cares for her fame and honor and character, or who is truly loyal to her institutions, can justify mob action while the courts of justice are open and the Governments of the States and the nation are ready and able to do their duty."

More recently, in a message to Congress, the late President Harding said: "Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy."

Reinforcing the appeals of both these Presidents and their denunciation of the horror of lynching and its danger not only to the people of African descent but to our Government itself and to the people of all races, we had the spectacle a few years ago of Leo Frank, a white man, lynched in the State of Georgia after a trial dominated by a mob, with the Governor of the State threatened with physical violence. Only recently newspapers have reported a documentary confession by another man establishing Frank's innocence of the crime for which he was murdered by a mob. Instances of this sort could be multiplied indefinitely.

EDUCATING PUBLIC OPINION

Great as has been the change in public opinion regarding this menace, a vast amount of work remains to be done. As was stated above, sixty-one persons were lynched in the United States during the year 1922; eight of these victims were burned alive. We have at least made this much progress that whereas lynching was condoned so little as fifteen years ago by newspaper editors, and even by clergymen in the pulpit, no reputable man in public life would now dare to utter such sentiments. The organized and persistent campaign against lynching first undertaken in this country by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has not been without avail so far as public sentiment is concerned, but the machinery for stopping lynching has been lamentably defective. Although again and again victims of lynching mobs have been proved innocent, it is only in the rarest instances that any effective action is taken for punishing the lynchers. I think that it is perfectly safe to say that for the more than 4,000 lynchings that have taken place in the United States during the past thirty-six years, not fifty people have been convicted for any offense whatever, and not twenty-five have been indicted for murder in the first degree. In the case of the respectable and peaceable colored janitor who was lynched last year (1923) at Columbia, Mo., and upon whose guilt the greatest doubt was subsequently cast, only one man was brought to trial, and when he was acquitted the case against the other men was dismissed.

State and local authorities throughout the United States have failed to deal with this issue of lynching. Now and again a determined Sheriff or a determined Governor, like the late Governor Bickett of North Carolina, cows and disperses a cowardly mob, but these cases of personal bravery on the part of officers of the law are so rare as to be almost negligible. We have, therefore, been confronted with a situation where from sixty to one hundred lynchings go unpunished every year in the United States and where the State and local machinery fail to function in stamping out this evil which disgraces the United States before the civilized world. We are, indeed, confronted with a complete breakdown and paralysis of the State before the mob. The States as a whole, have shown their absolute inability to cope with mob violence.

THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

The conclusion to which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has finally been forced, after years of appeal to the State authorities and after its successful campaign to arouse public sentiment, is this: that the only effective machinery for stamping out lynching in the United States must be

provided by fearless and strict enforcement of an adequate anti-lynching law. Such a bill, introduced in the last Congress by Representative Leonidas C. Dyer of Missouri and bearing his name—the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill—was passed by a vote of 230 to 119 in the House of Representatives and met a decisive check when a group of Southern Senators, under the leadership of Senator Underwood of Alabama, announced that they would filibuster and hold up the country's business, especially the budget, which was to come before the Senate at that time, threatening to deprive departments of the Government of funds necessary for their work. As the rules of the Senate permit unlimited debate, this group of Southern Senators was able to prevent even discussion of the Dyer bill in the Senate, although the facts concerning lynching had been made public at great length and in the most circumstantial detail during the debates in the House of Representatives and in the pages of the Congressional Record.

The main objection to the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill is that it infringes on State rights. It provides for a fine of $10,000 upon a county in which a lynching takes place, recoverable by the family or dependents of the victim; it also provides for the prosecution in Federal courts of lynchers and delinquent and negligent officers of the law. The objection is on constitutional grounds, the objectors maintaining that although the Constitution provides for equal protection of the laws, it contains no mandatory provision requiring Congress to accord that protection by legislation.

The bill is constitutional in the opinion of Moorfield Storey, former President of the American Bar Association, Attorney General Daugherty, Judge Guy D. Goff of the Department of Justice, and a number of lawyers who filed briefs during the Congressional fight. The supporters of the bill maintain that lynching is not simple murder, but a conspiracy by the mob which effectually substitutes the anarchy of mob action and mob justice for court trial and due process of law. It is a temporary overthrow of the State. The States are able to deal more or less adequately with simple murder, but are powerless against mob murder. The proponents also cite the failure of the States during thirty-five years to take any effective action whatever to stop lynching, and they point to the provision of the Dyer bill by which, with the enlargement of jurisdiction afforded by a federal court, lynchers and Sheriffs will not be tried by their own neighbors and constituents.

In the last Congress, however, it was not constitutional questions that determined the fate of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. It was the unwillingness of Southern Senators even to allow this legislation to be discussed. Most of the lynchings in the United States take place in the Southern States. Of 3,224 lynchings recorded for the thirty-year period, 1889-1918, 2,834 took place in the South.

One Cause of Negro Migration

There is another phase of lynching, and that is its effect upon the relations of the races in this country. It has been estimated that 500,000 colored persons have come North in the period of one year. The migration has various causes. Not least among them is lynching. Lynching and mob violence are the reasons given as second, when not first, by nearly all migrants among whom systematic inquiry has been made. Such an inquiry was undertaken by the United States Department of Labor in 1917 and set forth in a report on negro migration at that time.

Some years ago I was talking with the Mayor of a Southern city who told me of driving through the country surrounding Gainsville, Fla., and seeing numbers of small farms deserted by colored farmers and tenants. There were even chickens running about the deserted farmsteads and apparently the places had been left as they were by the colored migrants. He could not account for the exodus until I reminded him that a short while before six colored people, one of them a woman, had been lynched in that vicinity because one colored man had shot a deputy sheriff who had come to arrest him without a warrant. Such a condition is true of many communities throughout the South. Every lynching, almost without exception, is fol-

lowed by a departure of numbers of colored people.

The economic and social effects of lynching are clear. It is having a political effect also. The colored population of the United States are aroused over the question of lynching and the enactment of Federal and anti-lynching legislation as it has not been over any other situation or measure of recent times. They have been stimulated to organize political action, and in the last Congressional election colored votes retired Dr. Caleb R. Layton, Delaware's only representative in Congress, solely on the ground that Dr. Layton voted against the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. Similar results took place in New Jersey, in Michigan and in Wisconsin. The fate of the bill in Congress is being eagerly watched by the colored population of the United States, as well as by the thousands of white people to whom the stamping out of lynching has become a question involving not racial lines merely but the maintenance of order, good government and civilized society in their country.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN COUNCIL

Results of the latest conference of Prime Ministers—Concerted action on questions of foreign policy and defense—Treaty-making functions of the Dominions—Protest of British Indians against inferior status

ALTHOUGH forming no part of the British Constitution and possessing only consultative functions and advisory powers, the Imperial Conferences which originated in 1887 (when they were termed Colonial Conferences), have played an increasingly important part in maintaining the unity and shaping the general policies of the British Empire. These gatherings of Prime Ministers and other representatives of Great Britain, the self-governing Dominions and India have now become virtually a council of the Empire, exercising the influence that belongs to the only body which is capable of speaking for the whole of which is now described as "the Commonwealth of the British Nations." The most recent of these meetings was that which opened in London on Oct. 1, 1923, and after sixteen plenary sessions (apart from meetings of committees and technical discussions) concluded on Nov. 8. One of the interesting features of this Imperial Conference was that the Irish Free State for the first time participated in its deliberations. How representative the conference was may be gathered from the following list of those who normally attended the sessions at 10 Downing Street, the official residence of the British Prime Minister:

GREAT BRITAIN—Stanley Baldwin (Prime Minister, Chairman of the Conference), Lord Salisbury (Lord President of the Council), Lord Curzon (Foreign Secretary), and the Duke of Devonshire (Colonial Secretary).

CANADA—W. L. Mackenzie King (Prime Minister), G. P. Graham (Minister of Railways and Canals), and Sir Lomer Gouin (Minister of Justice and Attorney General).

AUSTRALIA—Stanley M. Bruce (Prime Minister) and Senator R. V. Wilson (Honorary Minister in charge of the Departments of Health and Migration).

NEW ZEALAND—W. F. Massey (Prime Minister).

SOUTH AFRICA—General J. C. Smuts (Prime Minister), H. Burton (Minister of Finance), and N. J. de Wet (Minister of Justice).

IRISH FREE STATE—Professor John MacNeill (Minister of Education), and Desmond Fitzgerald (Minister of External Affairs).

NEWFOUNDLAND—W. R. Warren (Prime Minister).

INDIA—Lord Peel (Secretary for India, head of the Indian delegation), the Maharajah of Alwar and Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.

Numerous other Ministers, high officials and naval and military officers of the various countries attended one or more meetings or took part in discussions which particularly concerned their departments.

The first important discussion took place on Oct. 3, when the Duke of Devonshire (Colonial Secretary) gave the conference a comprehensive review of the situation in the colonies, protectorates and mandated territories. According to the official sum-

Lynchings Decreasing

EXCLUSIVE IN YOUR CITY IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEWEST LYNCHINGS
IN FORTY YEARS
- - -

Hope Seen in '23 Record, Which
Marks Lowest Point
- - -

COURTS FAIL TO CONVICT
- - -

Prevention Chief Hope, Says Interracial
Commission - State Legislation
Suggested.
- - - - -

Atlanta, Ga., Jan . . . . . That the lynching record for 1923, numbering 28 victims, is the lowest in the forty years during which the records have been kept and is only about, one-third as high as the average for that period, is the statement of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, with headquarters in this city. The next lowest record was 38 in 1917, the highest was 255 in 1892, and the average for the forty year period has been 109. The Commission points out also that the area affected is steadily being reduced, from 33 states in 1892 to nine last year. The Commission believes that public sentiment and faithful officials are determined to put an end to lynchings.

On the other hand the discouraging fact is pointed out that local courts last year failed almost utterly to apprehend and punish the members of mobs. In only three of the 1923 cases, so far as the Commission could learn, were any arrests made or indictments returned. In two of these cases no convictions were secured. Results in the third case have not been learned. Repeated inquiries of local officials failed to reveal any other legal action, beyond fruitless grand jury investigations.

The difficulty of securing evidence and convictions in such cases, says the Commission, indicates the need in several states of special preventive legislation. Among the suggested measures, which have proved effective in other states, are provisions for removal of officers who surrender prisoners, the fining of counties where lynchings occur, and a state constabulary under control of the governor.

* * *

THERE WAS ONCE a distinguished American scientist—a surgeon, an anatomist, and a naturalist—who had negrophobia so badly that when he thought about the negro all his scientific equipoise and devotion to truth got lost, and he made an exhibition of himself. He wrote a book to prove that negroes are a hopelessly inferior race, that the joints of their skulls close and harden in infancy, preventing full mental and moral development, etc., etc. If books can be said to froth at the mouth, his did it. The next time you run across anyone who feels as he did, tell that person about Laurence E. Jones of the Piney Woods Country Life School and what Jones is doing among the most benighted black folks in Mississippi. You'll find the facts in W. O. Saunders' article on Jones.

Lynchings—1924.
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on

1617

INGTON SALEM, N. C. Journal

MAR 2 4 1924

Four States Never Lynched

Of more than usual interest, be cause of novelty in tabulation, are the lynching statistics just published by the Federal Council of Churches. We learn, for example, that there are only four States that have no record of a lynching at any time, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island — not counting, of course, the doing to death of alleged witches in Salem and Boston something over two centuries ago. The next best record is given to four other States which lynched no more after 1886—Maine, Connecticut, New Jersey and Utah. This overlooks the burning of the dead body of a murderer by Maine farmers last year.

The ten States that have successfully resisted the temptation to lynch during the last ten years are Delaware, Maryland, Indiana, Iowa, Idaho, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Seven more which achieved a clean record during the last five years are New York, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon and North Dakota. Eleven which got the better of the habit during the last two years are Illinois, Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Ohio, Minnesota and Washington. The three which refrained all through the 1 year of 1923 (in spite of their location in the "black belt") are South Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama.

Thirty-nine States were free from lynching last year and in only nine was reported this variety of mob violence. The report does not cause them to blush by the mention of their names, but indicates them as follows: "Four of the West-Southern Central States, three of the eight Southern Atlantic States, one of the four East-South Central States, and one of the West-Northern Central States, were guilty of the crime." In all 28 persons were lynched, 26 of them negroes and two of these women—a record of very encouraging improvement over past years.

TAMAQUA PA. COURIER
MARCH 21. 1924

FOUR STATES NEVER LYNCHED

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Council of Churches, which keeps tab on the records, "all four of the West-Southern Central States were guilty of the crime." Three of the eight Southern Atlantic states, one of the four East-Southern Central states and one of the West-Northern Central states had lynchings.

The second annual announcement of the roll of honor by the Federal Council of Churches is as follows:—

States that have never had a lynching—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Other states which have no record of a lynching since 1886—Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah.

Other states that have no record of lynching in the past ten years—Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, South Dakota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Other states which have no record of a lynching in the past ten years—Delatana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota.

Other states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years—Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota.

Other states which have no record of a lynching during 1923—South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee.

Total states still having mob mur- Thirty-nine.

Total state free of lynching in 1923—ter—Nine.

Less Lynching.

It is to be hoped that the favorable showing in the decline of lynchings for the past year may continue. There were too many—one would be too many—there were twenty-eight. Of those lynched twenty-six were negroes, two of them negro women. The number for 1923 was the smallest since records of lynchings have been kept. In 1892 lynching reached its highest number, 255, and that year thirty-three States had lynchings in them. Last year there were lynchings in nine States. Four States have never had a lynching. They are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Four other States, Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey, and Utah, have not had a lynching since 1886.

At length our State annals will all be clear of the stain of lynchings, and to this end ought all citizens to strive continually. Mobs will cease when public opinion becomes unanimously or even overwhelming against them and refuses to tolerate them. Christian people must stand together in this matter and use every opportunity to speak and act against lynchings.

York S. C. Enquirer

MAR 2 1 1924

1923 LYNCHING RECORD

Church Council Survey Shows Growth of Law and Order.

One white person and twenty-six negroes were lynched in 1923, says a Washington dispatch of Saturday. Two of the negroes were women. Nine states carry the responsibility. As an indication that love of the law, even in the face of the various suggestions that lawlessness is growing, still dominates, it has developed that three Southern states, heretofore with some record for mob rule, have changed their habits.

These states are South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. Only four states never have had a lynching. They are Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Last year according to the Federal

Dallas Tex. Dem. News

MAR 2 5 1924

LYNCHING IN 1923.

In 1923, according to the records of the Federal Council of Churches, there were twenty-eight lynchings in the United States. This organization publishes what it calls the roll of honor, listing each year the States which were free of mob murders. Last year thirty-nine States found a place on this roll. For the first time since records of lynchings have been kept, South Carolina and Alabama had the right to be set down as free frrom this type of crime.

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont claim never to have had a lynching at all. Beginning with 1886, Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah present an unbroken record without an instance of lynching. Within the last ten years no outbreak of this character has taken place in Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin. An unblemished five-year account is rendered by Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and South Dakota. Eleven other States have gone two years without a murder of this character. Last year South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee reformed, leaving but nine States in which such outrages are permitted to occur.

Texans do not need to be told whether Texas is to be found in the shameful minority. The article which the Federal Council of Churches sent out to the newspapers omitted mention of Texas altogether, but the omission can scarcely salve the pride of citizens of the

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution American

MAR 1 6 1924

28 Lynched in 1923, Churches Report

1617

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Twenty-eight lynchings occurred in the United States in 1923, according to reports made public tonight by the Federal Council of Churches.

These lynchings took place in nine states, while 39 states were free from lynchings last year. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The states in which lynchings took place were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia.

State. And yet we have no outside body of people upon whom to vent our feelings or blame our record. It is a fact that in Texas human beings are done to death by mobs without protection of law and against all sentiments of civilization and enlightenment. But times are getting better. The other day a mob knocked at a jail door in Texas with a railroad rail and a genuine Sheriff with vertebrae up his back and a sixshooter ready for action spoke a piece of his mind and the mob got away from there. A sequence of happenings like that and the Sheriffs of Texas can clear Texas of perhaps the ugliest stain it has ever been compelled to wear.

Denver N. C. News

MAR 25 1924

LARGE DECREASE IN LYNCHING IN U. S. IN YEAR 1923

Nine states bore the black shame of lynching in 1923, according to the Non-Lynching Roll of Honor of the Federal Council of Churches. These nine states were responsible for 28 mob victims. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The Roll of Honor contains the names of 39 states which had no lynchings in 1923. Places on the roll were earned during the last year by South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. It is the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept that South Carolina and Alabama have been free from crime.

Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching. They are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. The lynchings of 1923 were confined to groups of states. All four of the West-Southern Central States were guilty of the crime. Three of the eight Southern Atlantic States, one of the four East-South Central States and one of the West-Northern Central States had lynchings.

The second annual announcement of the Roll of Honor is as follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, 4

Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1896: Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah, 4.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Deleware, Michigan, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin, 10.

Additional states which have no record of lynching in the past five years: Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota, 7.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching the past two years: Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota, 11.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1923: South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee, 3.

Total states free of lynching in 1923, 39.

Total states still having mob murder, 9.

Rockwood Tenn Times MAR 20 1924

28 LYNCHINGS IN 1923

Washington, March 15—Twenty-eight lynchings occurred in the United States in 1923 according to reports made public tonight by the Federal Council of churches. These lynchings took place in nine states, while 39 states were free from lynchings last year. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The states in which lynchings took place were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Missouri, Texas and Virginia.

In the report the church council said that Massachusetts, New Hampshire, RhodeIsland and Vermont were the only states that had never had a lynching.

The church council said that the threats that the Dyer anti-lynching bill would be passed has led to efforts among the states to prevent such crimes.

FROM Journal Providence RI

MAR 18 1924

LYNCH LAW LAST YEAR

The Federal Council of Churches, through a committee which keeps track of executions under lynch law as reported and verified by Professor Monroe N. Work of Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, issues its second annual report. It is an encouraging one. There were twenty-eight lynchings last year. This is the smallest number since accurate records have been kept by persons or groups that from time to time have given thought enough to the matter to follow it statistically. The previous low record was for the year 1917, thirty-eight. The highest was in 1892, in which year there were 253 victims of mob sentences distributed over thirty-three States. Nine States shared the shame during 1923, all but one in the South. Alabama, South Carolina and Tennessee were exceptional in their section for freedom from lynch law during the year.

A progressive reduction of the roll of dishonor seems now to be definitely indicated. A campaign of education is being prosecuted, many agencies co-operating, to stamp out the evil by bringing to bear the corrective force of an aroused public opinion. Thrust of the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill by Congress has doubtless had a wholesome effect, and anti-lynching statutes in several States are reported to be working a salutary influence. The list of States which report no lynchings over a lengthening period of years is extending. According to the records, there are only four which never had a lynching, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont.

WILMINGTON, N.C. News

APR 16 1924

LYNCHING.

Comprehensive records on lynching are now being kept, particularly by the Federal Council of Churches. Their recently published report shows that thirty-nine states had no lynchings in 1923. A study of lynching in this country reveals that this practice is neither sectional nor due to inherent depravity in the American people. The New York Evening World recently said in an editorial on lynching:

"And it is significant, too, that public sentiment has been aroused, not because of the isolated instances of lynching in Southern states, but because of the violence of mobs bent on murder in the Northern city where Lincoln sleeps, in the city of Chicago where Lincoln was nominated for the presidency, in East St. Louis and elsewhere in the North—where racial hate was the motive. The difference between the Southern and our Northern mobs has been that in the South they have centered usually on a single culprit, while in the North the mob has struck indiscriminately at a race.

"And it is Northern more than Southern mobs that have shocked the nation into a realization that lynching a man means lynching the law—and that civilization cannot exist where the law is lynched."—Agriculture [illegible]

LITTLE ROCK ARK GAZETTE

APRIL 27, 1924

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Statistics recently made public bring out the somewhat remarkable fact that the 28 lynchings that occurred last year were confined to nine states of the Union. The annual announcement made by the Federal Council of Churches, which is based on figures that are not official but are said to be carefully compiled, gives this information:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont 4

Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1888: Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah 4

Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the last ten years: Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin 10

Additional states which have no record of lynching in the last five years: Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota 7

Additional states which have no record of a lynching the last two years: Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota 11

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1923: South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee 3

Total States free of lynching in 1923 39

The announcement leaves the reader to obtain by elimination the names of the states that had lynchings. Last year's total of 28 was the lowest in any year since the present records have been kept. The next lowest was 38, in 1917. In 1892, according to these records, lynchings reached the astounding and appalling total of 253 and these cases of mob violence occurred in 33 states.

The crime of lynching, which is peculiar to the United States in so unfortunate a degree, has continued because the public in so many parts of the country has tolerated it. There will be no lynchings in a community when the citizens of that community, the men of force and character, say there shall be no lynchings and hold themselves ready to suppress any manifestations toward mob violence. The conclusion is inevitable that if 39 states in the Union can get along without any lynchings, the other nine states of the Union should do as much.

Lynchings—1924.

Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

Jan.—Dec.

1618

ATLANTA, GA. Georgian

DEC 5 - 1924

LYNCHING DROP OF 50 PER CENT FOR U. S.

Report to Federal Council Indicates Elimination of Mob Evil. Church Problems Discussed.

Lynchings—"mob murder," they are called in pamphlets that are will be eliminated in the United States if the objects of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America are attained, according to reports and discussions on the subject presented to the session of the council at the Central Presbyterian Church Thursday.

The principal report in this connection was that of the commission on the church and race relations, which showed that up to November 1 of this year there were 13 lynchings, a drop of 50 per cent compared with the same period for 1923, in which year there were 26 lynchings in the United States, a decrease of 50 per cent from 1922, when there were 57 lynchings.

The report of the commission was presented as "the story of Christianity applied to race relations." In 17 states, it was asserted, committees or commissions on race relations have been established, chiefly in the Northern States, where the influx of the negro is causing a growing problem. In the South, it was said, the commission works with the commission on inter-racial co-operation.

In this connection a paper by Bishop F. F. Reese, of the Episcopal diocese of Georgia, was read, asserting among other things:

"Inter-racial co-operation and harmony between the white and negro races can be brought about only when the churches realize the sense of Christian brotherhood toward every man, black or white. Such a realization is a slow process, an iridescent dream perhaps, but it is the business of the church to hold up and work for the realization of what the world regards as an iridescent dream."

"The negro is not like the white man in every particular. There are striking differences, physical and mental, but he is one with the white man in his essential humanity."

PROBLEM OF CHURCH.

Problems of the churches in the matter of arousing interest were discussed in the report of the commission on evangelism and life service, and in an address by Dr. Warren H. Wilson, of the board of national missions of the Presbyterian Church. The latter sounded an alarm particularly concerning conditions in rural churches.

"After 15 years of work for the country church," said Dr. Wilson, "I am profoundly depressed by the religious weakness, futility and spiritual emptiness of many of the churches maintained by us. They have everything in them but religion. They are tremendously concerned over law enforcement. They ring with praise or blame of the educator. They have much to say about science, and all the time they are concerned with finance.

"If the federal council can move the churches toward mercy for the poor, pity for the unfortunate, sympathy for men of all sorts, tolerance for those of another religion, and justice clothed in love for people of another race than our own, these churches will become worth while."

Evangelism was urged as the solution—evangelism defined as "the whole spiritual outlook of the church, both in the realm of the child and in the experience of men and women who have turned aside from paths of peace and virtue and need to be reclaimed by the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ."

The theme of the meeting Friday morning was "The Church and the Community," and its text:

"As the body is one and hath many members, so also is Christ."

The session opened with devotional services led by the Rev. Thomas H. Lewis, president of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

COUNCILS OF CHURCHES.

The address by Dr. Wilson followed, after which came the report of the Commission on Councils of Churches in three-fourths of the cities of the country, with 48 cities maintaining councils with paid executives, one of which is Atlanta. The budget of these city councils exceeds $500,000 a year, it was reported. Five states are organized, with executive secretaries employed.

The report commended as a step in the right direction the announced decision of one denomination to have fewer and stronger churches.

"The great problem of comity, or mutual understanding in dealing with the problem of overchurching in the small community, that is becoming more pressing, can be met only by the co-ordinated effort of the state denominational bodies, especially outside the large cities," the report asserted. "The need for the practice of comity is one of the greatest reasons for having a state council of churches."

Observance in 1925 of the four hundredth anniversary of William Tyndal's printing of the Bible in English was indorsed at the opening of Friday's session.

AMERICANS KILLERS.

"We are a people given to temperance, to certain convictions," said Dr. Wilson, in his discussion of rural church conditions, "but we are also given to hate. Our nation stands before the world as a nation of murder. Our record of homicides is well known. It isn't the foreigner who does the killing, it is the old Ameircan stock, with its prejudices and its hates. In our rural communities we are up against this situation."

The temper of this council, composed of thoughtful and leading churchmen, among them some of the most powerful in the nation, was indicated by the spontaneous applause that followed Dr. Wilson's remark:

"The country church has a lot to say about science, but the less said about science the better."

There is nothing but religion that can make farming continue, said Dr. Wilson, with the remark that the farmer should know that he who raises a plant or a food animal holds trust for civilization. Farming, he said, is an austere occupation, an occupation of faith.

BERRY SCHOOL.

The Rev. M. B. Gurley, chaplain of the Berry Schools, of Rome, spoke briefly on the work of that institution, founded by Miss Martha Berry for education of mountain boys and girls.

"The Berry School is like this council of churches," he said; "it is undenominational, but an institution linked for service."

Co-operation in evangelism in Detroit was discussed by Dr. Joseph A. Vance. Co-operation between Catholics and Protestants in Detroit is warm and effective, he said.

The Rev. Arthur H. Armstrong, executive secretary of the St. Louis Church Federation, talked of co-operation in social service in that city.

Results from religious education in Rochester through church co-operation were discussed by the Rev. Orlo J. Price, executive secretary of the Church Federation of that city.

"Competition among churches is going," said Dr. Price.

ATLANTAN SPEAKS.

Church co-operation in Atlanta from a layman's point of view was described by M. M. Davies, Atlanta business man. Mr. Davies won the interest of the famous audience at the start by telling how he had become converted to the understanding that all denominations are "one in Christ." He said all churches are full of "provincial Christians" who do not perceive the value and need of interdenominational effort.

The Rev. C. B. Wilmer, former rector of the St. Luke Episcopal Church, of Atlanta, and now a professor at Sewanee, spoke on "The Spiritual Significance of Church Co-operation," expressing much the same sentiments.

"If the church is here merely as a post-mortem immigration society," said he, "there is no reason for our denominations to get together. But if it is here to advance the Kingdom of God on earth, then we must learn that fellowship in Christ is necessary."

INSPIRED TO SONG.

With the inspiration of this address, the audience fell to singing, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," Dr. Cadman, the president, raising the tune.

Five members of the Fisk jubilee singers, the famous organization of negro singers, sang a series of negro spirituals, that was one of the rich experiences of the meeting.

Dr. David Latshaw, representative of the international committee of the Y. M. C. A., and Mrs. Archibald Davis, of Atlanta, a member of the national board of the Y. W. C. A., spoke briefly of the work of those organizations in the line of co-operation.

"We would be unable to carry out our work in many cases," commented Dr. Cadman, "without the aid of these organizations."

Bishop A. R. Clippinger, of the Church of the United Brethren, of Dayton, Ohio, was the speaker at the daily devotional service, his topic being "Loyalty to Christ" and his message an appeal for a firmer personal religion.

Evangelism and research were the principal issues discussed at Thursday afternoon's session. Dr. William Adams Brown, of New York, chairman of the council's newly created commission of research and education, explained the operations of that body, and its need in studying the underlying causes and effects of crime.

A significant event of the quadrennium scheduled for Friday evening is an address by the Rev. Samuel M. Zwemer, of Cairo, Egypt, on "A United Front Against a New Moslem World," in which the danger to Christianity of Moslem aggression in the East will be sounded.

All public meetings are being held at the Central Presbyterian Church, sessions being at 9:30 a. m., 2:30 p. m. and 8 p. m. each week day through next Tuesday. Local pulpits will be filled by visiting churchmen, among whom are many of the most distinguished and powerful preachers of the United States, Sunday evening. A public meeting will be held Sunday aftrnoon at 3:30 o'clock in the Auditorium, when Dr. Robert E. Speer, retiring president of the council, will speak on "Christ the One Hope of the World."

Asheville, N.C. Times

DEC 5 - 1924

DECREASE SHOWN IN LYNCHING CASES IN COUNTRY PAST YEAR

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 5.—(By the Associated Press)—Such progress has been made in the fight against lynching in America that the churches are working with the "full expectation" of keeping the year 1926 free from lynchings.

This was revealed today in the report of the commission on church and race relations to the fifth quadriennial meeting of the Federal Council of Churches here. Up to November 1, of this year, there were 13 lynchings in the United States, a drop of 50 per cent as compared with the same period for 1923, the report shows. Last year, there were 28 lynchings showing a decrease of more than 50 per cent compared with 1922 when there were 57 "mobed murders" according to the commission.

In 17 states committees or commissions have been formed since the council commission was formed three years ago, it was stated. These commissions, the report continued, are principally in the northern states where the influx of the negro is "causing a growing problem."

Race Question

The delegates also had the inter-racial question brought before them in addresses prepared for delivery by Bishop Frederick F. Reese, of Georgia, and Mrs. W. A. Newell, Winston-Salem, N. C., superintendent of social service of the Methodist Episcopal church, south.

"Men and women of the churches can influence public opinion for the right when they know the facts," Mrs. Newell said. "Cooperation between the colored and white races through the general commission on interracial cooperation and the federal council's commission on race relations shows what can be brought about by group mediation.

"Bitterness between the races has been allayed, barriers lowered, opportunities opened by this quiet group of undismayed workers. The decrease in lynchings can be counted, but the pervasive influence to fairness can never be measured when results are sought."

Bishop Reese took the position that interracial cooperation and harmony between the white and negro races can be brought about only when the churches realize the "sense of christian brotherhoods toward every man." [...]ree.)

Business of Church

"Such a realization is a process, an irredescent dream, perhaps, but it is the business of the church to preach counsels of perfection, to hold up and work for the realization of what the world regards as an irredescent dream," he said.

"The negro is not like the white man in every particular. There are striking differences, physical and mental, but he is one with the white man in his essential humanity. When the churches have convinced their own people and have led them to accept that truth and base their relations to the negro on that principle there will be cordial cooperation and confidence between their races."

In presenting its views on the subject the commission on church and [...] stated that racial peace [...] upon racial attitudes and feelings.

Lynchings — 1924.
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on,

1619

NASHVILLE TENN. BANNER
Saturday, March 22, 1924

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Figures compiled and issued by the Federal Council of Churches show that there were fewer lynchings in the United States during 1923 than in any year since dependable records have been kept. During the year, however, twenty-eight persons were done to death by mob violence and a very large percentage of them were Negroes. Decided as the improvement is, the lowest previous figure having been thirty-eight in 1917, there is still need for vigorous activity to clear the skirts of the country from the crime. Only nine states allowed lynchings last year and that is the most favorable aspect of the whole matter.

For the first time since accurate records have been compiled, Alabama and South Carolina were not charged with a single crime of mob violence. Tennessee also did not have a lynching during 1923 and it has been more years than that since a Negro has fallen victim to a mob. The last lynching in this state was that of two white men in 1922 and the one preceding that was likewise on the person of a white man, as well as memory serves.

The decrease in lynchings is a thing to be greeted with the most sincere thankfulness by every patriotic citizen. It is a pleasing indication of the progress of civilization and the growth of respect for law and order. It is, in large part, the result of educational effort on the part of churches and social service organizations, which have done the country a very large service by emphasizing the horror and danger of the menace contained in mobs and mob methods.

Another help in suppressing lynchings has been the passage of stringent laws in many states for the punishment of those who might be guilty of this heinous offense. It is more than a little unfair to such states, however, to endeavor to make it appear that they were moved by any emotion baser than a very genuine desire to see the ends of justice served and order maintained in their bounds. The report on which this article is based is to be commended for its emphasis on the fact that lynching is a national problem and to be treated as such without sectional bias.

The report of lynchings in this case, too, appears to have been compiled fairly and comprehensively. Such has not always been the case and the South has often suffered in the eyes of the nation on that account. A very great majority of those who gather and arrange such figures, for instance, failed to notice the wholesale mob murder at Herrin, Ill., when it took place. Patently it was unjust to every other state mentioned in the announcements on lynching that year. There has never been a more outrageous and revolting exhibition of the horrors of mob violence than that at Herrin and there was no real reason why it should not have been listed as what it was.

The South is making great forward strides on this matter and it will continue so to do. The motives which move it are of the best and it is helpful to have the fact generally recognized. The time should speedily come when there are no lynchings anywhere and it will do so in direct proportion to the degree of co-operation given in a sane manner by the whole country to stamping out the evil.

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution
Georgian
MAR 15 1924

Letters From the People

INTERESTING STATISTICS.

Editor The Georgian:

Nine states had lynchings in 1923, according to the non-lynching records of the Federal Council of Churches. These nine states were responsible for 28 lynchings. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes—two being women.

Thirty-nine states had no lynchings in 1923, among them being South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. It is the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept that South Carolina and Alabama have been free from the same. Only four states in the union have never had a lynching; they are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah—four.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 10 years: Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin—10.

Additional states which have no record of lynching in the past five years: Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota—seven.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching the past two years: Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota—11.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1923: South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee—three.

Total states that had lynchings in 1923—nine.

There was a great reduction in the number of lynchings in 1923, when there were 28—the lowest number in any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest record was 38, in 1917, and the highest was 253, in 1892. In that year there were lynchings in 33 states.

Many reasons are given for the great improvement in conditions. According to the Commission on the Church and Race Relations, "The campaign for interracial co-operation, which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built upon faith that Christians will join in a sound, constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America; that the principles of Jesus are sufficient to meet all the critical situations that confront us or that may arise, and that ways and means will be supplied for enlisting the forces of the churches and communities."

Washington, D. C. ARTHUR E. HUNGERFORD.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. News
AR 17 1924

LARGE DECREASE IN LYNCHING IN UNITED STATES IN YEAR 1923

Twenty-Eight Persons Lynched in Nine States Last Year, Smallest Number on Record—None in North Carolina During Past Two Years—Interesting Facts.

(Special to The Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, Mar. 17.—Nine states bore the black shame of lynching in 1923, according to the Non-Lynching Roll of Honor of the Federal Council of Churches. These nine states were responsible for 28 mob murders. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The Roll of Honor contains the names of 39 states which had no lynchings in 1923. Places on the roll were earned during the last year by South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. It is the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept that South Carolina and Alabama have been free from the crime.

Only four states in the Union have never had a lynching. They are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. The lynchings of 1923 were confined to groups of states. All four of the West-Southern Central States were guilty of the crime. Three of the eight Southern Atlantic States, one of the four East-South Central States and one of the West-Northern Central States had lynchings.

The second annual announcement of the Roll of Honor is as follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, 4.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching since 1896:

Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah, 4.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past ten years:

Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin, 10.

Additional states which have no record of lynching in the past five years:

Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, New York and North Dakota, 7.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching the past two years:

Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, Washington, Ohio and Minnesota, 11.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1923:

South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee, 3.

Total states free of lynching in 1923, 39.

Total states still having mob murder, 9.

This is the second time that the Roll of Honor has been issued by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. It is based on records kept by Professor Monroe N. Work at Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. They have been carefully checked. When the first Roll of Honor was issued it was challenged in many states, but when the records were checked over, only one or two adjustments were necessary.

There was a great reduction in the number of lynchings in 1923, when there were 28, the lowest number in any year since accurate records have been kept. The next lowest record was 38, in 1917, and the highest was 253, in 1892. In that year there were lynchings in 33 states.

Many reasons are given for the great improvement in conditions. According to the Commission on the Church and Race Relations "The campaign for Interracial Co-Operation, which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built upon faith that Christians will join in a sound constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America; that the principles of Jesus are sufficient to meet all the critical situations that confront us or that may arise, and that ways and means will be supplied for enlisting the forces of the churches and communities.

"Christian men and women are facing the facts regarding lynching and are becoming aroused to the menace of it. The migration of negroes has aroused leading citizens also to inquire the cause, and lynch-

ing has been given as one. Tremendous educational campaigns have been carried on by the Federal Council of Churches, the Commission on Interracial Co-Operation, the Women's Council, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, other groups of Southern church women and other organizations.

"The threat of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill by the United States Congress caused citizens and officials in many states to take means to stop lynchings. A similar bill has been introduced in the present Congress.

"Several states have passed strongest anti-lynching laws. In some of these laws the family of the victim is given the right to sue the county in which the crime occurs. The widow of a negro lynched in South Carolina obtained a verdict of $2,000 under such a law. Officers of the law are becoming more active in preventing lynchings as public opinion demands it.

"Lynching will cease entirely when public opinion will no longer tolerate mob murder because the great body of Christian people regard those who participate in mobs as crimi-

CUMBERLAND MD. TIMES
MARCH 21, 1924

FOUR STATES NEVER LYNCHED

Of more than usual interest, because of novelty in tabulation, are the lynching statistics just published by the Federal Council of Churches. We learn, for example, that there are only four states that have no record of a lynching at any time, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island—not counting, of course, the doing to death of alleged witches in Salem and Boston something over two centuries ago. The next best record is given to four other states which lynched no more after 1886—Maine, Connecticut, New Jersey and Utah (This overlooks the burning of the dead body of a murderer by Maine farmers last year). The ten states that have successfully resisted the temptation to lynch during the last ten years are Delaware, Maryland, Indiana, Iowa, Idaho, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Seven more which achieved a clean record during the last five years are New York, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon and North Dakota. Eleven which got the better of the habit during the last two years are Illinois, Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Ohio, Minnesota and Washington. The three which refrained all through the one year of 1923 (in spite of their location in the "black belt") are South Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama.

Thirty-nine states were free of lynching last year and in only nine was reported this variety of mob violence. The report does not cause them to blush by the mention of their names, but indicates them as follows: "Four of the West-Southern Central States, three of the eight Southern Atlantic States, one of the four East-South Central States, and one of the West-Northern Central States, were guilty of the crime." In all 28 persons were lynched, 26 of them negroes and 2 of these women—a record of very encouraging improvement over past years.

RALEIGH, N. C., Observer
MAR 25 1924

WHAT IS A LYNCHING?

Thirty-nine States are reported by the Federal Council of Churches as being free from lynchings last year, and it is gratifying to know that North Carolina is credited with having none for the last two years. The report does not name the States that had lynchings, but says that four of the West-Southern Central States, three of the eight Southern Atlantic States, one of the four East-South Central States and one of the West-Northern Central States were guilty of the crime.

In all 28 persons are reported as having been lynched, 26 of them being negroes, and this is just about half of what the number was a few years ago. It is a decided improvement, and while some of the lynchings occurred in Southern States there are several Southern States with clean records besides North Carolina.

The Columbia *State* suggests the need of defining what is a lynching, and this is in line with the feeling of those who compiled the record. In the South when two or more persons conspire together to take the life of a human being, it is usually called a lynching, but in the North there is a tendency to call it something else. Unlawful killings of whatever nature ought always to be punished, but there is no use of painting a different picture of the South from that painted in the North for the same or similar occurrences.

Dispatch - 7 1924
Lexington N.C.

EDITORIAL Comment

Four States Never Lynched

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Lynchings-1924.
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

1620

Henderson N.C.
Dispatch
MAR 22 1924

Lynchings Occurred In Only 9 States In 1923, With 28 Mob Murders

Washington, March 20.—Nine states bore the black shame of lynching in 1923, according to the non-lynching roll of honor of the Federal Council of Churches. These nine states were responsible for 28 mob murders. Twenty-six of the victims were negroes, two being women.

The roll of honor contains the names of 39 states which had no lynchings in 1923. Places on the roll were earned during the last year by South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. It is the first year since comprehensive records on lynchings have been kept that South Carolina and Alabama have been free from the crime.

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The second annual announcement o the Roll of Honor is as follows:

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Total states free of lynching in 1923.....39

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Many reasons are given for the improvement in conditions. According to the Commission on the Church and Race Relations "The campaign for Interracial Co-Operation, which includes the fight against lynching, has been started and built upon that faith that Christians will join in a sound constructive plan to apply the principles of brotherhood and justice to race relations in America; that the principles of Jesus are sufficient to meet all the critical situations that confront us or may arise and plied for enlisting the forces of the of the churches and communities.

FEB 22 1924

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For the first time since accurate records have been compiled, Alabama and South Carolina were not charged with a single crime of mob violence. Tennessee also did not have a lynching during 1923 and it has been more years than that since a Negro has fallen victim to a mob. The last lynching in this state was that of two white men in 1922 and the one preceding that was likewise on the person of a white man, as well as memory serves.

The decrease in lynchings is a thing to be greeted with the most sincere thankfulness by every patriotic citizen. It is a pleasing indication of the progress of civilization and the growth of respect for law and order. It is, in large part, the result of educational effort on the part of churches and social service organizations, which have done the country a very large service by emphasizing the horror and danger of the menace contained in mobs and mob methods.

Another help in suppressing lynchings has been the passage of stringent laws in many states for the punishment of those who might be guilty of this heinous offense. It is more than a little unfair to such states, however, to endeavor to make it appear that they were moved by any emotion baser than a very genuine desire to see the ends of justice served and order maintained in their bounds. The report on which this article is based is to be commended for its emphasis on the fact that lynching is a national problem and to be treated as such without sectional bias.

The report of lynchings in this case, too, appears to have been compiled fairly and comprehensively. Such has not always been the case and the South has often suffered in the eyes of the nation on that account. A very great majority of those who gather and arrange such figures, for instance, failed to notice the wholesale mob murder at Herrin, Ill., when it took place. Patently it was unjust to every other state mentioned in the announcements on lynching that year. There has never been a more outrageous and revolting exhibition of the horrors of mob violence than that at Herrin and there was no real reason why it should not have been listed as what it was.

The South is making great forward strides on this matter and it will continue so to do. The motives which move it are of the best and it is helpful to have the fact generally recognized. The time should speedily come when there are no lynchings anywhere and it will do so in direct proportion to the degree of co-operation given in a sane manner by the whole country to stamping out the evil.

MAR 26 19[illegible]

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Alabama.

1638

Lynchings - 1924.

Legal Punishment for Rape.

SEEK TRIAL FOR NEGRO ASSAILANT

Movement to Delay Hearing in White Assault Case Opposed in Petition

ANNISTON, ALA., Oct. 16.—Special to The Advertiser.—Several citizens of the Borden Springs section are anxious for a speedy trial for Fred Hilyard, negro, who is alleged to have attacked two white girls at that place September 20, and in a letter published in a local newspaper signed by 19 persons opposition is voiced to the petition said to have been circulated in Heflin opposing the proposed calling of a special term of court to hear the evidence in the case.

In a news story from Heflin printed in an Anniston paper a few days ago, it was stated that residents of Heflin were preparing a petition to be presented to Judge S. W. Tate of the seventh judicial circuit, asking that no special session of the court be called, giving as their motive a desire to save the cost of an extra session.

It is in protest to this reported petion that Borden Springs citizens have entered a request for a special session. It is claimed that important negro witnesses now available will be gone later and that some vital evidence will not be presented unless a speedy trial is arranged.

Lynchings—1924.

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Arkansas.

1639

SECOND NEGRO GUILTY AT VAN BUREN, VERDICT

Also Given Death for Fatal Attack on Mrs. Latimer.

JURY OUT 11 MINUTES

Third Negro Will Not Be Tried Until March Term of Court. Eleven Held on Nightriding Charge Also Go Over.

VAN BUREN, Ark., Jan. 5.—Judge James Cochran at 9:07 o'clock tonight sentenced Spurgeon Ruck and William "Son" Bettis, two negroes, to be electrocuted "sometime between sunrise and sunset February 6," for the murder of Mrs. Effie Latimer of Crawford County, December 28.

1-6-24

VAN BUREN, Ark., Jan. 5.—William "Son" Bettis, one of the trio of negroes indicted by a special grand jury in connection with the slaying of Mrs. Effie Latimer, of Catcher, Crawford County, Dec. 28, was found guilty of murder in the first degree by a jury here Saturday afternoon and his sentence fixed at death. The jury deliberated but 11 minutes before agreeing on a verdict.

Bettis was the second negro to be sentenced to death for the fatal shooting of the young white woman, who was found in her home several hours after she was criminally assaulted and then shot. Spurgeon Ruck was convicted yesterday. Witnesses testified that Bettis was the negro who fired the shot.

The third negro, Johnnie Clay, 15 years old, who proved to be the state's star witness in both the Bettis and Ruck trials, who also is under indictment for murder in the first degree, will not be tried until the March term of circuit court.

Trials of 11 negroes arrested two days following the killing of Mrs. Latimer, and indicted by the special grand jury for violation of the "night riding" act, will be held at the March term also, it was announced.

NEGRO CONVICTED IN MURDER CASE

1-5-24

Van Buren, Ark., January 4.—Spurgeon Ruck, one of two negroes charged with murder and criminal assault in connection with the slaying last week of a woman in her home in the Catcher farming settlement, was convicted of murder in the first degree by a jury here late today.

NEGRO GIVEN DEATH BY VAN BUREN JURY

Verdict Reached After 10 Minutes' Deliberation.

NEGRO BOY STAR WITNESS

Youth Tells Court Detailed Story on Two Negroes' Fatal Attack on Mrs. Effie Latimer in Catcher Settlement.

VAN BURSN, Ark., Jan. 4.—Spurgeon Ruck, one of two negroes charged with criminal assault and murder following the finding of Mrs. Bob Latimer in a dying condition at her home at Catcher last Friday, was found guilty of murder in the first degree at 5:35 o'clock this afternoon after a jury had deliberated 10 minutes.

"We, the jury, find the defendant guilty as charged and fix his punishment at death" was the verdict. Sentence was not pronounced by the court.

1-5-24

Shouts of approval were cut short by Judge James Cochran's gavel. He had previously warned the crowd that any demonstration would cause immediate arrest by the deputies stationed about the courtroom.

The negro, handcuffed with Will Bettis, who was also indicted on the charge of murder and assault, was led in front of the bench to hear the verdict. Neither of the pair showed any sign of emotion, and the court ordered immediate jury selection for the trial of Bettis.

Week After Crime.

The finding of the jury came within one week after Mrs. Latimer was found, brutally beaten and dying, in her farmhouse home last Friday.

Following the selection of a jury tonight, trial of Will Bettis will begin early in the morning. State testimony is expected to be practically the same as in the trial of Ruck today.

Johnnie Clay, 15-year-old negro, who also is faced with a murder charge in connection with the case, was the state's star witness at the Ruck trial.

The defense's contention in the Ruck trial was that the negro was miles from the scene of the crime when it occurred. One negro testified he had seen Ruck on a road in the northern part of the county.

Principal state witnesses were Dr. B. L. Bennett, who attended Mrs. Latimer; neighbors who found her, and the negro youth. Their testimony was practically the same regarding details of the gruesome crime. Clay, however, was the only eyewitness to the affair.

Spectators cleared from the courtroom and gathered in groups on Van Buren's main street and about eating houses early in the evening discussing the happenings of the day.

None of the hundreds of people from the Crawford County section where the crime was committed left tonight. They were preparing to stay over for the Bettis trial tomorrow.

Eleven Held For Night Riding.

Hearing for the 11 negroes taken from a barricaded house the Sunday following the crime, will probably be postponed until next week. They are held under the "night riding" act, and charged with congregating for an unlawful purpose.

Officials stated early tonight that the score or more of deputies on guard today will remain on duty. No negroes, except those testifying in the trial today were seen on the streets of Van Buren during the trial.

Testimony of Clay, the state's star witness, in substance was that Ruck and Bettis, bringing him as an unwilling comrade, went to the home of Mrs. Latimer and told her they wanted to purchase some eggs. She went in other house and soon returned with a number of eggs, when Ruck seized her and forced her back into the house. Clay said he heard a terrific struggle in the house and later Ruck reappeared and Bettis went into the house.

After some time Bettis came out and the woman followed him, weeping. Clay said she appealed to him to bring help and he replied, the boy testified, that Ruck and Bettis had threatened him and warned him to keep quiet.

Says Bettis Shot Woman.

Mrs. Latimer screamed and turned to re-enter her house, Clay testified, and Bettis took his shotgun and shot her in the back. The white woman fell to her knees, the negro boy continued his narrative, and Ruck seized the weapon and clubbed her over the head with it. She fell prone and the three climbed a fence and fled from the scene, the witness said. This occurred shortly after 8 o'clock last Friday morning.

Mrs. Florence Purdue, a neighbor, told of finding the mortally wounded woman after 2 o'clock that afternoon and Dr. B. L. Bennett, a physician, who lives at Kibler, testified as to the injured woman's wounds. He said he was impressed by the appearance of her home, which indicated that a desperate struggle had taken place and said he found the stricken woman lying on a pallet of blood-soaked clothing.

NEGROES INDICTED ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Van Buren, Ark., January 4.—Two negroes, Spurgeon Ruck and William Bettis, were indited by a special grand jury here late today on charges of criminal assault and murder in connection with the attack on Mrs Effie Mitchell Latimer in her home in the Catcher community, five miles from this city last Friday.

1-2-24

The grand jury was empanelled shortly after noon today, although Judge Cochrane had previously stated that the jury would be called tomorrow. No explanation of the change in plans was given. Judge Cochrane opened a special term of the circuit court and the grand jury was sworn in without delay. They retired, immediately reporting the indictments after a five hour session, during which a number of witnesses were called.

Florida.

1640

Lynchings—1924.

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Death For Negro.

Bradentown, Fla., November 10.—Sentence of death has been passed upon [redacted] negro, convicted in circuit court Friday of the crime of criminal assault upon a young girl of his own race. Had Coachman escaped that charge he would have been tried on the charge of murder, the child having been choked to death after being maltreated. Her body was found in a dense woods two weeks ago, after she had been missing from home 24 hours.

Lynchings—1924.

Illinois.

1641

Legal Punishment for Rape.

THESE MEN ALSO ATTACKED GIRLS; ALSO WERE FREED

Why Were They Paroled? Who Knows?

BY OSCAR HEWITT.

Sam Gitlitz was indicted Nov. 19, 1920, for a serious crime against a 12 year old girl. He was turned out of the penitentiary by Gov. Small's board of pardons and paroles in one year and thirteen days.

GOV. LEN SMALL.

The girl testified that Gitlitz roomed at the home of her mother. One evening after supper when she was alone in the house she started down the stairs Gitlitz, she said, caught her, put his arm around her, shoved a handkerchief in her mouth and dragged her into his room, where he ravished her. That was on July 2, 1920. The girl said Gitlitz threatened to kill her if she made an outcry.

A week or so later, Gitlitz sent the girl's mother for an expressman and while she was gone he invaded the girl's room, put a hand over her mouth, threatened to kill her again if she cried out, and attacked her a second time. The mother came back sooner than he expected and caught him.

Dr. Philip Feigan examined the girl and said that she had both been ravished and infected with a loathsome disease. Dr. Yetta Scheftel, acting city physician, also made an examination and gave the same medical verdict.

Gitlitz was convicted. He entered Joliet prison on Feb. 9, 1921. He had been given a definite sentence of three years. He was paroled out on Feb. 24, 1922. How that parole contributed to the welfare of society has not yet been explained.

Nor has the public been told what prominent society, interested in the morals and welfare of little girls, prevailed upon Gov. Small or his board of pardons and paroles to turn loose Patrick Palomo.

He was convicted of taking indecent liberties with a 7 year old girl. He also had debauched the morals of three other little girls.

Entices Them to His Room.

One of these girls, the day after her twelfth birthday, started with her younger sister to a movie show. When they arrived there they found they lacked two pennies of the price of the tickets. They asked Palomo for two pennies and he gave the younger girl one penny and the older one a nickel. He wanted the girls to go to his room. They refused. Several days later they met him again while he was standing in a hallway on 92d street. He invited them again and they went. When he let them go he gave them $1.50 to divide. He enticed them in again nine times, also another 12 year old girl three or four times. On each occasion he gave his victims $1.50 or $2.

Palomo was indicted on June 29, 1920, for taking indecent liberties with still another girl, only 7 years old. He was convicted and arrived at the Joliet prison gates on Sept. 23, 1920.

His sentence was one to twenty years, but he was paroled out on Nov. 30, 1921. The police gathered information which indicates that Palomo has left Illinois. Their last report of him was that he was in a southern state. Consequently they do not know whether he has gone straight since.

What Authorities Say.

It is the opinion of some students that such social degenerates go wrong at the first opportunity. It is held in some quarters that they are mentally defective and that it is exceedingly difficult for them to go straight, if they have the slightest opportunity to travel the wicked road. These experts hold that society can only be protected by the permanent incarceration of such criminals and that institutions for their continued imprisonment should be provided; but in the absence of these, such offenders should be held in the institutions now operated.

But that is not the policy of Gov. Small's board of pardons and paroles

Lynchings-1924.

Massachusetts.

1642

Legal Punishment for Rape.

RAPISTS SENTENCED

3 WHITE MEN CONVICTED OF ASSAULTING ONE WHITE WOMAN—GET FROM 8-12 YRS. IN MASS.

1-26-24

Tree me nwho attacked a 20-year old Revere girl in that city the night of Nov. 30, after they had beaten her escort unconscious, were tried yesterday in Superior Criminal Court. All three received long terms in State Prison. Guardian

Joseph Flannagan of Revere was given from 9 to 12 years and Owen Duffy of Revere eight to 10 years. Both pleaded guilty to the statutory charge. Manuel Costa of Revere, convicted of assault and battery, received from six to eight years.

Appearing in person yesterday afternoon Dist. Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien appealed to Judge Bishop to administer punishment as heavily as he could to help make roads and highways of Suffolk County safe places for all women and children.

The men were indicted only a week afo. Trial, sentence and commitment all took place yesterday afternoon.

The young woman and her escort were waylaid on Black road. The young man fought until he was knocked unconscious. When he regained consciousness he dragged himself about a quarter of a mile to the Revere police station. Capt. Patten, speeding to the scene on his motorcycle, captured the three men at the point of a pistol.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

New Jersey.

1644

19-YEAR OLD WHITE GIVEN 10-30 YEARS FOR RAPE ON GIRL

Enticed 9-Yr. Old Colored Girl in Jersey City On Canal Barge, Keeping Her All Night.

(Special Correspondence)

Jersey City, N. J.—On the night of February 22, Wm. Jeffrey, a 19-year-old white boy, enticed Ida Brooks, a 9-year-old colored girl, of 296 Grand street, into a canal barge where he detained her all night.

He released the child the next morning at 7 o'clock, leaving her on the street corner near her home, where she was found by her mother who, with the police, had been on a hunt all night for the girl.

Jeffrey was arraigned March 6, and pleaded guilty to the charge of rape. On March 13, after receiving a severe lecture from the Judge, he was sentenced to State Prison for a term of not less than 10 years, and not more than 30 years.

A large number of Jersey City's colored citizens were in court to hear the sentence. The case was closely watched by the Jersey City Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Colored Republican Association of Hudson County, and the New Era Democracy Association.

Lynchings — 1924.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

New York.

1643

$4,000 FOR ATTACK.

Woman Sued For $100,000 After Pullman Porter Made Advances.

Continued
Copy

NEW YORK, [illegible] $4,000 verdict was granted [illegible] Dorothy Vahrndt, of Hollis, Queens, today in the $100,000 damage action against the Pullman Company and the New York Central Railroad Company, growing out of an alleged attack on Miss Vahrndt in her berth on a sleeper by a negro porter. The jury, sitting before Justice Van Siclin in the Long Island City supreme court, deliberated less than an hour.

Miss Vahrndt testified that the porter seemed unduly solicitous of her comfort and that she stuck a hat pin in her pillow before going to sleep. She was awakened by some one seizing her and then biting her, she said, but managed to frighten off her assailant by screaming. She said she recognized the porter as her attacker.

1-9-24

Lynchings - 1924.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Tennessee.

1645

BOY SHOOTS NEGRO AS JUDGE NULLS VERDICT

Father and Son Figure in Columbia Courtroom Tragedy

COLUMBIA, Tenn., June 27.—Dorris Towmey, white man, 27, shot Robert Wilson, 15-year-old negro, to death in the court room here this afternoon immediately after a jury's verdict of two years in the pen for the negro on a charge of attempted criminal assault upon the 12-year-old sister of Towmey had been set aside by Judge Thomas B. Lytle.

The judge held that the evidence did not sustain the verdict and the girl's father started toward the negro, while officers grappled with him. His son and brother of the girl shot the negro three times with a pistol. Towmey was immediately arrested and placed in jail. The shooting occurred before the court room was cleared after the adjournment following the action of the judge in setting aside the verdict.

Lynchings-1924

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Texas.

1646

THE LUTHER COLLINS CASE.

The recent re-trial of Luther Collins, local colored youth accused of a criminal outrage upon a white woman in 1922, resulted in a "hung jury," the report leaking out that seven of the jurors stood for acquittal, while the other five remained like adamant for his conviction.

Houston Informer

The crime charged against Collins, for which he was given the death penalty in 1922, case being later reversed by the appellate court upon the discovery of new evidence, is that he (Collins) forced the white male escort of the woman to lie down, with hands folded across his breast, while the race youth committed a criminal outrage upon the woman.

3-29-24

After the first trial a thorough investigation was made, the Houston branch of the National Assocaition for the Advancement of Colored People becoming interested in the case (as it looked like the race man was being railroaded to the gallows) and much new evidence was gathered and several depositions taken, both from former star witnesses and the plaintiff.

Able counsel was employed and the case has been stubbornly fought and contested, for people of both races realized the physical impossibility of any man committing a criminal outrage upon a woman, holding a man under subjection at the point of a gun while engaged in such assault.

At the trial last week, some of this new evidence was introduced and it was as plain as day that the accused was more the victim of mistaken identity or "frame-up;" and many doubt if such an attack ever actually occurred.

One thing is certain and sure: Either Collins is guilty or he is innocent, and it is regrettable that the jurors could not reach an agreement in his last trial; for he has been incarcerated since 1922 and his jail confinement is about to tell on his health, while the suspense is bound to affect him mentally.

If he is guilty, he should be legally punished; if innocent, he should be released and to further deny him of his liberty and constitutional rights and guarantees under the circumstances and in view of the testimony at the recent trial, renders the whole affair a travesty upon justice.

Our courts were originally established to assure and insure the humblest person a fair, impartial, unbiased and just trial before a jury of his peers, while our system of jurisprudence presupposes and adjudges every person brought before the bar innocent until his guilt has been firmly established by testimony from reputable witnesses.

But too often in the South the color of a man's skin determines either his guilt or innocence, while the evidence and testimony are of little consequence.

Immediately after Collins had been given the death penalty for his alleged crime, a white youth brutally and heinously attacked a young colored girl en route to her home in the Third Ward from Harrisburg, and no arrest has ever been made nor any indictment returned by the inquisitorial bodies of this county, so far as The Informer has been able to ascertain.

Let us turn the tables and make the victim of the "alleged" assault colored and the "assailant" white, with the same "flukey" evidence and testimony, and it does not even require a wise man to know what would have happened long ago!

Can't a colored man get a fair and impartial trial in the criminal courts of the South, when his complainant is a member of the white race?

Is a colored man to be prosecuted according to law or persecuted on account of his color?

The colored citizens who put up the money for defending Collins and the lawyers who conducted the case in such a masterly manner, deserve special praise, and, even though it appears that the youth is being given a raw deal because of his color, rather than any crime, the fight must not be given up at this juncture.

If the case is bailable, efforts should be made to get Collins out on bond, and if he can not get a fair and impartial trial here, a change of venue should be sought from the court.

Lynchings - 1924.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

South Carolina.

1647

NEGRO OF BAMBERG ALLOWED FREEDOM

Ben Stephens Given Parole by Governor After Long Years of Service.

Having served over 26 years on the chaingang on a charge of attempted criminal assault, Ben Stephens, Negro, of Bamberg county was yesterday allowed his freedom on parole "during good behavior," according to the announcement of Gov. Thomas G. McLeod. The Negro's sentence, originally for life imprisonment, was commuted some years ago to 30 years' service, and this with "time on" for good behavior had practically completed.

Stephens, then about 15 or 16 years old, was convicted in 1898 of attempted criminal assault upon a white woman and July 22, 1898, he began the service of his sentence upon the chaingang. He has, according to the county officials, made a "model prisoner," and, with the exception of time lost when he once broke his leg at work on the repairing of a bridge, he has not "lost more than ten days" of the 26 years in his work as a convict.

The only witness against the Negro at the time of his trial was the prosecutrix and, according to the petition, "there has always been serious doubt as to his guilt." Seven of the jurors, who tried him, are now living and are signers of the petition for executive clemency.

Suspension of the Negro's sentence was recommended by the state board of pardons in its April report, but upon this the governor did not act until further investigation.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Virginia.

1648

Mob Seeks Negro's Life Following Court Verdict

ROCKYMOUNT, VA., Feb. 5.—The verdict of the jury in the criminal court sentencing Otis Gilbert to the penitentiary for a term of twenty years after his trial on a criminal charge, did not satisfy the mob of whites who had demanded the death penalty for the Negro and they stormed the jail in search of the prisoner. They were not satisfied even after a representative of their number was allowed to go through the jail and found that the Negro had been spirited away. The prisoner was rushed from the court house to the state prison in an automobile immediately after the jury's verdict.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Arkansas.

1621

MAY 3 - 1924

FIND FOR THE SHERIFF IN LYNCHING OF NEGRO

Jury in Federal Court Denies Suit of Victim's Sister.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 2.—A jury in federal court today found for the defendant in the case of Callie Henry, negro woman of St. Louis, against D. S. Bray, sheriff of Hot Spring County; W. H. Cooper, surety on the sheriff's bond; S. H. Leiper and W. T. Gamble, deputy sheriffs of Malvern, in which $10,000 in damages was asked for the alleged killing of John Harrison, negro, arrested on a statutory charge, by an alleged mob on the night of Dec. 3, 1922. The negro brought suit against the officials, charging neglect in protecting the prisoner, who was killed by unknown assailants after the officers had been overpowered near the depot platform at Malvern. The petitioner brought suit as a sister of the slain negro and as next best friend for three minors. The case was begun in federal court Thursday afternoon.

Another suit against a half-dozen or more residents of Malvern for their alleged participation in the activities that resulted in Harrison's death by shooting and in which damages for $10,000 are asked was passed until the next term of court.

Harrison was killed at the Malvern railway station while he was being spirited out of town by officers, who feared mob violence against him. The officers had taken the negro to the home of Mayor Gamble for safekeeping until train time. When they took the negro to the station, one entered the train, while Deputy Sheriff S. H. Leiper bought the tickets. Before the train left, according to testimony introduced yesterday, the officers were overpowered, and the negro was killed, his body being riddled with bullets by unknown assailants.

Attorneys representing the Henry woman are trying to prove that Sheriff Pray and his deputies did not properly protect their prisoner. The woman brought suit as sister of Harrison and as the next best friend of Martha Harrison and others, minors.

The case was not completed last night and Judge Trieber dismissed the jury until this morning.

FIND FOR THE SHERIFF IN LYNCHING OF NEGRO

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LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE
MAY 2, 1924

PAGE EIGHTEEN.

ALLEGED LYNCHING CASE IS ON TRIAL

Negro Woman's Suit Against Officers Heard in Federal Court Here.

The alleged lynching of John Harrison, negro, by residents of Malvern on December 3, 1922, after he had been arrested charged with a statutory offense, was recalled yesterday in the Federal Court here, when the $10,000 damage suit against S. H. Leiper, W. T. Gamble, D. S. Bray and W. H. Cooper, city and county officials of Malvern and Hot Spring county, which was brought by Callie Henry, negro woman, was taken up.

Lynchings—1924. Alabama. 1632

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Journa

JAN 22 1924

Claims He Overheard Plot of Guardsmen to Lynch Baird In Jasper—

HAMILTON, Ala., Jan. 22.—Members of Company M, Alabama National Guard, plotted to lynch William Baird, a miner, and after Baird was lynched, at least one member of the command described to him the manner of the deed, B. Hartley, mechanic of the company, testified today at the trial of Robert J. Lancaster, former sergeant, who with seven other guardsmen, are charged with the lynching.

Hartley, first witness of today's session, testified that he overheard members of the command discussing a proposed trip from Townley to Jasper to remove Baird from jail. He said that Lancaster was among those who discussed the proposed trip. The witness testified that in conversation with Lancaster later, the defendant told him that Baird was "hard to handle." The witness said that Lancaster in this purported conversation asserted that it was necessary "to hit Baird in the head" to subdue him.

The testimony of the witness brought to a startling climax what had been a drab and ordinary proceeding.

Defense Overruled

The defense objected to every question of the state and Judge Almon overruled objections.

Hartley testified that he first heard of the plot to lynch Baird ten days before the lynching occurred. He named the eight defendants as among those who discussed the lynching of Baird. The night before the lynching, Hartley testified Lancaster applied for an automatic rifle and extra rounds of ammunition.

As the witness continued, the defense grew more pointed in making objections. Judge Almon continued to rule that all questions of the state thus far were relevant.

Hartley said the group of guardsmen returned to Townley barracks between 3 and 4 o'clock on the morning of the lynching, leaving "guns and uniforms covered with mud to be cleaned." When officers appeared, the guns were covered the witness said.

The witness testified that he heard further conversation among members of the command regarding the lynching of Baird with particular reference to the difficulty the group had in "handling" the man. This conversation, took place, he testified at Tuscaloosa, home station of the company after it had been sent back there from Townley.

Hartley said "word was passed to officers of the company" but he denied that he told the captain of it.

Hartley's First Testimony

The cross-examination of the witness was particularly severe.

Hartley did not testify in former trials.

Judge Almon sustained the state and refused to allow the witness to answer a question by the defense concerning the alleged disappearance of coal from allotments of his comrades and camp and also concerning the alleged disappearance of clothing belonging to Lancaster.

On re-direct examination Hartley testified that Captain Loller, in command of Company M, "had warned the boys about talking" telling them that dictaphones might be in use. The witness testified further that Lancaster made the statement a few days after the lynching "if any you jugheads squeal on us we'll beat hell out of you."

J. D. Alvin, the next witness, testified that he overheard Captain Loller, say something to the guardsmen a few days before the lynching, in substance, "don't go over there until after 11 o'clock." The witness offered the same testimony at previous trials and captain Loller denied it in every instance.

W. W. Turner, of Holly Grove, testified that he saw two automobiles, one a large car and the other a smaller one, traveling toward Jasper on the night Baird was lynched. He said the larger car was driven by Leslie West. In a previous trial, West who was killed in a mine accident several months ago testified that he drove one of the cars carrying the lynching party. The late Leslie West and Guardsmen, among whom were some of the defendants, drove away from Townley on the night of the lynching according to the testimony of Beach O'Brien, a vocational teacher of Birmingham, who at that time was employed in a drug store at Townley. He testified that guardsmen were in the drug store early in the evening of Jan. 12 and that later in the night they left in automobiles.

Mrs. J. B. Phillips, resident of McCallum, a town between Townley and Jasper, testified that she noticed two cars passing and heard a man in one car say: "We will get him before daybreak."

The testimony of the day served to bring larger crowds to the court room. No announcement was made by the state whether other "new witnesses" would be called.

TESTIFY OF CHARACTER

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Jan. 22.—With Captain Lollar, a member of the party, Tuscaloosa this morning sent more than thirty of her leading citizens in a cold cross-country drive to Hamilton, Ala., to testify as to the character of Robert J. Lancaster, former national guardsmen, accused of murder in connection with the lynching of William Baird, striking miner, in Walker county in 1921. Captain Lollar, together with Lieut. L. B. McBride who was recently killed in an automobile accident near Tuscaloosa, was in charge of the Warrior Guards, the Tuscaloosa organization doing strike duty, when Baird was lodged in the Walker county jail charged with the death of one of the guardsmen and was taken out later by a party of men alleged to have been national guardsmen and riddled with bullets.

The hope was generally expressed by members of the party which left Tuscaloosa this morning that this third hearing given Lancaster will end the cases against the guardsmen. Others are accused, but have never come to trial. McBride's death and the murder of Kenneth Thompson, Tuscaloosa motorcycle officer who was formerly company clerk of the Warrior guards, removed two principal witnesses for the defense. The state has lost two main witnesses. Thompson was killed here in December, 1923, while attempting the arrest of automobile thieves who are yet at liberty and unknown.

GUARDSMAN GIVEN TERM IN PRISON

Hamilton, Ala., January 25.—Robert J. Lancaster was today found guilty of second degree murder and sentenced to serve eighteen years in the state penitentiary. With seven other members of company M, Alabama national guard, he was charged with lynching William Baird, a miner, during the Alabama coal strike in 1921 while the command was on guard duty at Townley, Ala.

The defendant showed no emotion when the verdict of the jury was read. The punishment was fixed by the jury which had deliberated since 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. 1-26-24

Lancaster was a sergeant of his company and was alleged by the state to have been the leader of a mob of soldiers which took Baird from jail on January 13, 1921, and shot him to death a short distance from Jasper. Baird was in prison on a charge of having slain Private Morris, a member of company M, who previously had shot and instantly killed Rev. J. C. Northcutt, Baird's father-in-law, while the guardsman was on patrol duty in the neighborhood of the Northcutt home.

Expect New Trial Motion.

It is expected that counsel for Lancaster will file a motion for a new trial. Trial of the other defendants will take place immediately, each man having a separate trial, under present plans.

Joseph Key will be placed on trial next Monday, and Roy Patton's trial will begin next Thursday. Special jury venires to try these cases have been placed in hands of the sheriff.

The case was transferred from Walker county, where the lynching took place, to Marion county, on motion of the state, and has ben one of the hardest fought legal battles in the history of criminal procedure in Alabama, according to legal observers. Mistrials resulted in two former trials of Lancaster.

The youthful wife of Lancaster and their 3-year-old daughter were figures during the present proceedings, being constantly by the side of the defendant. Mrs. Lancaster unflinchingly heard the verdict read.

Guardmen Tried In Old Lynching

HAMILTON, Ala., Jan. 23.—B. Hartley, former mechanic in the Alabama National Guard, was the first witness Tuesday in the trial of Robert J. Lancaster, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of Will Baird, union miner, by an alleged group of National Guardsmen while on strike duty in Walker County on January 13, 1921.

He testified that he had overheard a conspiracy between Lancaster and the seven other defendants to get a man out of the Jasper jail. Lancaster secured a rifle and extra cartridges on the night before the lynching, he said. Hartley said he had been told by one of the guardsmen that it was necessary to hit Baird over the head, "as he was hard to handle." 1-23-24

Defense counsel offered objection to practically every question asked the witness, but Judge Almon overruled them.

ANOTHER LYNCHING CASE IS GIVEN JURY

Third Man Goes to Trial at Hamilton Today.

HAMILTON, Ala., Jan. 30.—The case of Joseph W. Key, second former national guardsman to be tried here in connection with the lynching of William Baird, miner, during the 1921 coal strike in Alabama, was given to the jury late this afternoon. Preparations are being made for the opening of the trial tomorrow of Roy Patton, third member of the party of eight guardsmen accused of the lynching. Robert J. Lancaster was tried last week and sentenced to 18 years in the penitentiary.

ALABAMA LYNCHING TRIAL GETS START

Hamilton, Ala., January 21.—The first witness in the opening of the trial here today of eight former members of the Alabama national guard charged with the slaying of William Baird, a miner, near Jasper during the coal mine strike of 1921, was J. F. Sides, former jailer of the Walker county jail. He told how a party of masked men entered his office, overpowered him, unlocked the jail and took out Baird.

M. Daniels, a rural mail carrier in Walker county, examined during the afternoon, testified that he found the riddled body of Baird the next morning at the side of the road.

A jury was secured without difficulty during the morning and the trial opened in the afternoon with the court room crowded with witnesses and spectators. Judge C. P. Almon, of Florence, Ala., is presiding and the state's case is being handled by Horace C. Wilkinson, former attorney.

The case of Robert Lancaster, a former sergeant in the national guard, is being tried first. He has faced juries two times previously in the same case but mistrials have resulted. The other defendants are Joseph W. Key, Henry R. Sexton, E. W. Speed, Jr., William E. Hanby, Glenn Stephenson, Roy Patton and C. E. Richardson. 1-22-24

Baird was in prison at the time on a charge of killing Private Morris, a member of company M, Alabama national guard.

ALABAMA LYNCHER GUILTY.

National Guardsman Gets 18 Years for Helping to Kill a Miner.

HAMILTON, Ala., Jan. 25.—Robert J. Lancaster today was found guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced to serve eighteen years in the State Penitentiary. With seven other members of Company M, Alabama National Guard, he was charged with lynching William Baird, a miner, during the coal strike in 1921, while the command was on guard duty at Townley, Ala.

Lancaster, a Sergeant, was alleged to have been the leader of a mob of soldiers which took Baird from jail on Jan. 13, 1921, and shot him to death a short distance from Jasper.

Baird was in prison on a charge of having slain Private Robert Morris, a member of Company M, who previously had shot and killed the Rev. J. C. Northcutt, Baird's father-in-law, while the guardsman was on patrol duty in the neighborhood of the Northcutt home.

Second Alabama Guardsman for Lynching

Hamilton, Ala., Jan. 27.—Attorneys, witnesses, and others interested in the trials of former members of the Alabama national guard charged with lynching William Baird, a miner, began arriving here tonight for the opening of the trial of Joe Key, former corporal of the company. Robert J. Lancaster was tried last week and sentenced to eighteen years in the penitentiary.

NATIONAL GUARD MAN CONVICTED FOR A LYNCHING

Hamilton, Ala., Jan. 25.—[United Press.]—Robert L. Lancaster, sergeant in the Alabama National Guard, today was convicted of second degree murder in the lynching of William Baird, union miner. It carried a penalty of eighteen years' imprisonment.

Conviction of Lancaster means that seven other guardsmen, accused of complicity in the lynching, will now go to trial on the same charge.

Baird, a union miner, was taken from jail at Jasper, Ala., on Jan. 13

1921, by masked [illegible] and shot to death. He had been arrested for killing a guardsman, who had previously killed Baird's father-in-law, Jesse Northcutt.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.
Alabama.

1633

COLUMBIA, S. C.
Record-
JAN 22 1924

REVEALS ALLEGED LYNCHING PLOT

Witness Testifies He Was Told of Killing of Miner by Ala Militiamen

Hamiltno, Ala., Jan. 22.—Members of Company M, national guard plotted to lynch William Baird, miner, and after Baird was lynched at least one member of the command described to him the manner of the deed, B. Hartley, mechanic of the company, testified today at the trial of Robert J. Lancaster, former sergeant, who with seven other guardsmen, are charged with the lynching.

Hartley, first witness of today's session, testified that he overheard members of the command discussing a proposed trip from Townley to Jasper to remove Baird from jail. He said that Lancaster was among those who discussed the proposed trip. The witness testified that in conversation with Lancaster after the lynching, the defendant told him that Baird was "hard to handle," the witness said that Lancaster in this purported conversation asserted that it was necessary "to hit Baird in the head" to subdue him.

lot was reported six for acquittal and six for conviction. In the Patton case the jury was reported divided seven for acquittal and five for conviction on the last ballot.

The postponement of the other cases resulted when Judge Horace C. Wilkinson, chief prosecuting attorney, wired for a continuance for two weeks. He was not preesnt, having remained at home in Birmingham. "There is a limit to human endurance," Judge Wilkerson was reported as having said. The defense opposed any postponement. 2-9-24

Witnesses, court officials and others interested in the cases returned to their homes today after the cases had been continued. The jury drawn for the Glen Stephens case which was next on docket was discharged.

The two mistrials called to mind that Robert J. Lancaster was tried twice before the one in which he was convicted and sentenced to 18 years in the penitentiary. His attorneys immediately took an appeal to the supreme court.

JUDGE DECLARES MISTRIAL IN TWO LYNCHING CASES

ALL OTHER CASES CONTINUED AND ALL WITNESSES GO HOME

Homilton, Ala., Feb. 4.—To other mistrials were adde dto the history of the guardsmen trials in connection with the lynching of William Baird, miner, uring the 1921 coal strike. Juries in both the Joseph Key and Foy Patton cases were discharged at 4:45 o'clock Monday afternoon by Judge C. P. Almon after they had reported inability to agree. Other cases were postponed indefinitely.

The Key jury had been out since Wednesday afternoon. The last bal-

Birmingham

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
Times -
JAN 28 1924

THE LANCASTER VERDICT

Robert J. Lancaster was a sergeant in the Alabama National Guard during the last coal strike, says the Montgomery Journal. He and his comrades were sent to the mineral district for the protection of life and property. While on guard duty a member of their company was forced to kill a civilian. The son-in-law of the civilian, Will Baird, then took the life of the guardsman.

Baird was held in the Walker county jail. One night the jail was entered by a mob, Baird was removed and early the following morning his dead body, filled with bullets, was found beside the road leading from the county seat to the guardsmen's camp.

Lancaster and the other soldiers were in the district on the duty of protecting life and property, not for the taking of life and the destruction of property. He and seven others were arrested on charges of being members of the lynching party. There was evidnce against them and there was evidence in their favor.

A jury in the Marion circuit court, to which the cases were assigned on change of venue, Friday returned a verdict convicting Lancaster of murder in the second degree. Lancaster was sentenced to eighteen years in prison.

This verdict cannot fail to come as a surprise to the people of Alabama. No extenuating circumstances entered into the case. Lancaster either was a member of the mob which killed Baird, or he was not. If he was, he was guilty of murder in the first degree and subject to a penalty of death or life imprisonment. If he was not, he was not guilty and was entitled to a verdict of acquittal and to restoration of the citizenship which he held at the time he was accused of the offense.

1633

Compromise verdicts bring the law into disrepute. Lancaster was tried three times. Two times the juries were unable to reach agreements. Interest naturally lagged after the two trials. The people seemed to forget the great issues involved in the cases. Now comes a jury with a compromise verdict saying that lynching is a crime, but a crime punishable by fifty years in prison.

The Lancaster case will live. This verdict must be cause for regret. It would be far better to have a verdict acquitting a guilty man than a verdict condoning lynch law.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.
Florida.
1634

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. Times-Union
JAN 7 - 1924

LYNCHING INQUEST SET FOR TUESDAY

No Arrests Have Been Made in Burman or Phillips Cases.

A coroner's inquest, to probe the lynching a week ago Sunday of Gene Burnam, negro, said to have been a bootlegger, will be conducted next Tuesday by Justice of the Peace J. S. Geiger, it was said yesterday.

Justice Geiger, in whose district the headless body of Edgar Phillips, another negro, was found on the night of December 29, in McGirt's creek, in the Jacksonville Heights section, said no inquest had been arranged.

For more than a week, county officers have been probing both cases, but, so far, no arrests have been made. Officers stated they had several important clues on which to work, but none so far resulted in the apprehension of the slayers.

Officers declared they were positive both men were bootleggers, and were slain because they "knew too much about the activities of white shiners." Burnam, it was stated, was believed to have informed officers about stills recently seized in the western part of the county.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. Times-Union
JAN 14 1924

INQUEST TUESDAY IN LYNCHING CASE

Gaskins Also to Investigate McGirts Creek Mystery.

The finding of the headless body of Edgar Phillips, a negro, in McGirt's creek several days ago and the lynching of Gene Burnam, another negro, a few days afterwards, are two homicides Perse L. Gaskins, the new state's attorney, will investigate. Inquests will be held Tuesday.

Officers have failed to unravel the tangled skeins of mystery that surround the slaying of Phillips, whose severed head has not been found. No arrests have been made in this case.

Phillips' torso, was found weighted with railroad irons in McGirt's creek, in the Jacksonville Heights section by two young men, of a fishing trip. First it was believed the body was of a white man, but positive identification was made the next day.

Burnam was carried to a wooded spot in the Dinsmore section where he was riddled with bullets, fired by four unidentified white men, who fled after the lynching. The head was also crushed by a hammer.

Officers are willing to believe that Phillips and Burnam were murdered by moonshiners, who thought the negroes had "pimped" to county and federal agents about their activities. However, other theories have been advanced, but nothing has resulted in the apprehension of their slayers.

FEB 28 1924
JACKSONVILLE, FLA. Times-Union

FOUR INDICTED FOR ALLEGED LYNCHING

Quartet Charged With First Degree Murder By Grand Jury.

Based, it is believed, on the alleged confession made by Flemming Pickett, 18, that he was a member of a party of four white men, who lynched Eugene Burman, 24 negro, on December 30, 1923, the Duval county grand jury yesterday afternoon returned indictments charging first degree murder against Pickett and the other three men. One of those indicted was Jerry Willis, who is now in jail in Roswell, New Mexico. The names of the other two are being with held as they have not been captured.

Pickett, in his confession said to have been made last Saturday before Sheriff W. H. Dowling, County Detective Henry Lilienthal, Assistant State's Attorney W. M. Madison and the father of the boy, declared that he and the other three young men took the negro out and killed him on account of the black having stolen about forty gallons of moonshine whiskey from them. He named Willis and the other two white men in his confession.

According to the confession the county officials state that the white men took the negro from his home, 1123 Jefferson street, about noon December 30 and took him out on the Kings road. While in the car, the negro was hit over the head [illegible] times with a hammer and finally told to get out and run through the woods. When he started to run he was shot down by one of the white men. Four bullets entered his body, which was abandoned by the men who returned to their car and returned to Jacksonville.

Sheriff Dowling is expected to send a deputy sheriff to Roswell in a few days to bring Willis back to Jacksonville.

Although the trial of Fleming Pickett and Jake Willis, charged with murder in connection with the alleged lynching of Eugene Burnam, 24, negro, on December 30, 1923, is scheduled to be held Monday morning in circuit court, it is very probable that it will be continued for the term, is was intimated by court authorities yesterday.

Pickett and Willis are two of a gang of four men said to have abducted the negro from his home, 1123 Jefferson street, taking him to a spot in the woods near Dinsmore and killed him. The other two are known to the state and authorities and an effort is being made to apprehend them. For this reason it is believed that the state would prefer to try all four of the men at the same time. Indictments have been returned against all four of the white men by the Duval county grand jury.

Pickett was apprehended several weeks after the crime at his home on Kings road, but Willis had escaped to New Mexico, and was captured at Roswell. The other men are said to have gone from Jacksonville there but were not arrested.

At the time of the crime the negro was said to have stolen some moonshine liquor belonging to the white men, this being given as the cause of the killing. On December 27 Burnam was arrested and an automobile and twenty-five gallons of liquor siezed and the man was awaiting trial in federal court when he was slain.

This trial will close the criminal cases on the circuit court docket for the term. The trying of civil cases will be resumed next week.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. Times-Union
JUL 27 1924

LYNCHING TRIAL MAY BE PASSED

State to Await Arrest of Two Others Believed.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia.

1635

MEN MUST SERVE FOR ATACKING JAIL

Savannah, Ga., January 9.—(Special.)—J. T. and C. B. Humbert, convicted of an attempt to storm Chatham county jail when a mob of 3,000 tried to take out Walter Lee, negro, accused of assault, must serve their sentences of three months each, according to Judge Meldrim's decision today. Certiorari proceedings in their cases taken from the city court to the superior court were overruled.

J. T. Alexander and Gordon Shuman, two other defendants, have served four months each. The Humbert cases are the first criminal cases in five years certioraried from the city court to the superior court here.

1-10-24

Held for Lynching

Columbus, Ga., Sept. 18.—W. B. Wells, E. E. Newman and Tom Cr[illegible], white, are being held by the police on charge of murder for the death of Will Green, whose body was found behind Green's home, 416 10th avenue.

9-19-24

The odor of the partly decomposed body led workmen to the gruesome discovery. The wife and friends of the dead man had been threatened with a similar fate if they told of the fuss over bootleg liquor and of Green's death.

Lynchings—1924. Illinois.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1631

Indict Deputies After Race Trouble

Cairo, Ill., April 3—(A. N. P.)—Two deputy sheriffs, Burleigh C. and John Brown, brothers, have been indicted by the Alexander Co., circuit court grand jury, in connection with a racial disturbance here two weeks ago when local farmers sought to intimidate Negro cotton pickers through dynamiting, arson, and shooting. The deputies are alleged to have been derelict in their duties. Illinois has a law which automatically removes a sheriff in whose county a lynching occurs. The governor may reinstate him within ten days if he feels such action would be justified. Seven other citizens were cited in the grand jury report.

NINE INDICTED ON ACCOUNT OF ILLINOIS MOB

Whites Attempted To Lynch Three Innocent Suspects Of Cairo Murder

Associated Negro Press.

CAIRO, Ill., Aug. 13.—Nine members of the mob which sought to lynch three suspects of the murder of a young white woman have been indicted by the Pulaski Circuit Court grand jury. If convicted after trial they are subject to penalties of one year in prison or a $1000 fine. Two of the suspects, Hess Connors, 22, and Fred Hale, 19, were tried and found guilty. Connors was given a death sentence and Hale life imprisonment.

HOLD INQUEST IN MOB DEATH

Photo by Defender Staff Photographer.

Miss Bertha Deutsch (white) shown at right, testifying before coroner's jury in the case of William Bell, 1057 Frank St., who was slain by a mob on the West side. Miss Deutsch said Bell was the wrong man and did not insult her. She is being questioned by Attorney G. C. Adams, shown on the extreme left. Irving Rockowitz and Otto Epstein, at bottom, are charged with the actual slaying of Bell. Epstein is shown smoking a cigaret. Both are held for murder.

suit through her attorney, William H. Haynes, in the Superior Court of Cook County for $5,000.00 on 1st Monday, November 3rd. William Bell was set upon by a group of men on his way to his home on the night of October 8th and was beaten to death. He was set upon because of his alleged indecent conduct towards two Jewish girls. The coroner's jury held two men to the Grand jury after they were identified as members of the mob which caused the death of Bell.

Atty. Haynes

Atty. William Haynes is the same lawyer who recovered $3,000.00 judgment against the city about a year ago for Henry Mobly, who was killed by a mob at 51st and S. Racine Avenue by a mob of white men who resented placement of negroes in the Stock Yards. Bell's case has created a stir all over the country and the outcome of this case is looked forward to with interest in many quarters where great resentment was felt at the time of Bell's death.

EPSTEIN IS FREE; BONDS ARE $10,000

Citizens Angry Over Low Bond Demanded For Dastardly Crime

Otto Epstein, accused mob leader, who beat to death William Bell with a baseball bat, after he had been mistaken for the assailant of a young white girl, was admitted to bail by Judge William Lindsay, November 6, under bonds of $10,000. The bonds were signed by Mrs. Ellie Miller, 673 N. Dearborn St., who scheduled a $25,000 four story brick building and Mrs. Celia Schneider, 1608

INVESTIGATING A MOB.

Cairo Grand Jury Hears oll Witnesses Against Girl's Slayers.

CAIRO, Ill., July 28.—The Pulaski County circuit court grand jury investigating the slaying of Miss Daisy Wilson, 18-year-old daughter of J. C. Wilson, Illinois Central stockkeeper during the robbery of his store last Monday night, adjourned late this evening until tomorrow morning without making a report but all of the witnesses against Hess Connors and Fred Hale, Cairo negroes who have confessed the crime, were heard and it is probable that the jury is now ready to investigate the action of the mob which threatened the lives of Ike Brown and Arthur Jones, Memphis negroes, who were held as suspects.

"We are making satisfactory progress" was the only statement of State's Attorney Loren Boyd after the session adjourned.

Mr. Boyd indicated earlier in the day that the trial of the negroes probably would start immediately after their indictment.

Judge D. T. Hartwell of Marion instructed the jury shortly before noon and then dismissed that body until this afternoon when investigation of the girl's death was started after routine cases were disposed of.

After the court had recessed at noon today a committee of approximately 100 men, representing every precinct in Pulaski County, met in the court room and through a speaker, M. D. Brelsford, president of the Pulaski County Farm Bureau urged the sheriff and state's attorney "to do everything possible to give the case against the negroes the right of way."

"We do not believe in mob rule," said Mr. Brelsford, "but we believe that speedy justice is necessary." Following Mr. Brelsford's talk, F. P. Moreland, Ku Klux Klan organizer, repeated Mr. Brelsford's assertion and then commended Sheriff Hudson for his work in the case. Mr. Moreland added that the klan had offered a reward of $200 in addition to that raised by Sheriff Hudson upon conviction of the slayers.

Because of the death penalty the state's attorney explained, as did Judge Hartwell, the negroes will not be advised to plead guilty but with both having made confessions, their trial is expected to be short. The negroes will not appear until time for their trial.

Judge Hartwell made a statement this afternoon in which he insisted that the negroes must be given a fair trial and ample protection, and that he would not permit any disorder.

A confession detailing his part in the robbery and death of Miss Wilson was made Sunday by Hale to Deputy Sheriff Dallas Winchester following Conners' confession Saturday. Hale who admitted that he fired the shot which killed the Wilson girl while Hale fled with a pouch containing about 26 cents, total amount of the

RIOT VICTIM'S WIFE SUES CITY OF CHICAGO

Mrs. Melvi Doconer Bell, widow of William Bell, who was killed at the hands of a mob on October 8th, filed

Ridgeway Ave., who scheduled a two-story brick building, whose value is said to be $16,000.

Observers who have followed the case closely say that the low bond upon which he was released will no doubt influence the jury if it tries him to mitigate his guilt. A bond of $10,000 is usually asked for in cases of manslaughter. Epstein had been charged with murder.

Some Contrasts

Only a few weeks ago jurists were being praised to the heights for the sternness with which they sent Lawrence Washington to the gallows. On all hands it was said that it was time for murders to cease in the great state of Illinois. No bond was ever set for Washington. For him there were no mitigating circumstances. The law specifically states that "all persons shall be bailable before conviction, except for capital offenses where the proof is evident or the presumption great." (Sec. 1, Division 3, General Act of 1874.) In view of this interpretation of the law, in the case of Epstein, the proof must necessarily not be evident or the presumption not worth considering. Yet there are witnesses who testified against and identified him as the man who beat Bell to death. Can it be that his plea of "not guilty" outweighs their testimony?

Smith Represents State

Upon seeking information leading to the granting of such a low bond, investigators for this paper found that as far as State's Attorney Crowe was concerned that he had ordered every possible effort brought to bear to see that Epstein did not get bail. Yet in the original files of the Criminal Clerk's office it is written that a bond of $10,000 was fixed for Epstein "by agreement." Asst. State's Attorney William Smith was the man who represented the state's attorney's office in the case.

Bail Up to Court

It is a matter of common opinion that the final question of bail does not rest with the state's attorney, but is up to the judge before whom the case has to be tried. In this case it was Judge Lindsay. Epstein's hearing comes up for trial in his court January 5, 1925.

The indictment was returned under an old statute forbidding unlawful assembly. Sheriff Hudson refused to reveal the names of those indicted.

In giving Fred Hale, one of the Negroes, a life sentence yesterday, and Hess Conners the death sentence, Judge Hartwell ordered that on each anniversary of the slaying, Hale should be placed in solitary confinement to meditate on his part in the crime.

NINE INDICTED FOR EFFORT TO MOB SLAYERS

Mound City, Ill., July 31.—Nine persons are named in indictments returned late today by the Pulaski county grand jury investigating the mob here the night of July 22, which threatened to lynch three Negro suspects in the slaying of Miss Daisy Wilson, 18, Villa Ridge storekeeper's daughter.

Lynchings-1924.

Kentucky.

1636

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Alleged Leader of Kentucky Mob Held to Grand Jury

HARRODSBURG, Ky., Nov. 22.—G. A. Harris, Knoxville, Tenn., one of the nine men arrested in connection with rioting at the Dix River dam near Highbridge, Ky., Sunday night and Monday, was held for the Grand Jury today, under bond of $1,500. Testimony at Harris' preliminary trial tended to indicate he was the leader of a mob which drove 500 colored workmen from camp.

Lynchings – 1924
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Louisiana.

1637

Three Lynched, Mobs Go Free

Shreveport, La., Sept. 11.—An especially [illegible] coroner's jury declared that Mrs. Sarah Williams and her son, John, aged 14, lynched by a mob here last week, came to their death at the hands of parties unknown. The boy was accused of killing the sheriff, who attempted to arrest him.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Mississippi

1626

INDICT THE LYNCHERS, PLEADS JUDGE ALCORN

Buyers as Well as Sellers of Liquors Should Be Handled.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Sept. 22.—Judge W. A. Alcorn, in his charge to the grand jury in the opening session of circuit court, here today instructed the jurymen to "investigate the buyers of whisky as well as the sellers." He condemned in no uncertain terms the action of the mob which took a negro from Coahoma County Sheriff Arthur several nights ago, and shot the black to death, near Jonestown, Miss., in this county. Judge Alcorn orders grand jury to leave no stone unturned to discover the guilty parties and to indict them. He declared that all criminals should be brought to justice, regardless of their position in life, or their standing in the community, promising the jury that all who were indicted and convicted by the court would be severely punished.

A fine of $100 was imposed upon N. W. Thomason and S. C. Caffey, who had been summoned for jury service and failed to appear. The following county officers were fined $10 each for failure to appear and answer to roll call in accordance with an order issued by the judge of the last term of court: Will Shell, tax assessor; Dr. E. O. Moore, coroner and ranger; J. D. Smith, supervisor; J. S. Whiting, Jr., Joe Alcorn; H. D. Riley and W. J. Brady, justices of the peace; and Baxter Beach, constable.

The grand jury was duly drawn, and Arch Crump, named foreman. The list of the grand jury is as follows: R. L. Hitch, J .L. Stribbling, W. A. Wilburn, E. F. Bornman, Joe Turney, O. M. Barry, W. T. Lesley, W. P. Baker, John B. Baker, H. W. Mabrey, H. F. Bell, B. C. Sullivan, D. F. Battle, G. Johnson, W. C. Carter, L. A. Middleton, J. H. Archer, R. G. Tucker, and F. H. Cannon, with F. L. Smith as bailiff. Jury No. 1 is as follows: W. C. Schultz, C. R. Swindle, W. H. Critz, A. C. Tabb, A. M. Sommers, Dwight Baber, W. S. Dyass, J. McI. Archer, Eddie Sullivan, S. N. Bower, J. R. Shelton and W. S. Bobo. Jury No. 2 is composed of the following: W. [illegible] Calcote, J. A. Carlisle, Lee Wright, Frank Williams, Arthur Ganong, J. E. Price, Joe Ferguson, H. L. Bobo, Layman Abbott, W. D. Price and O. C. Webster.

The first afternoon of court was consumed by the setting of cases appealed from the city courts of Clarksdale, thus giving the more time to the district and county attorneys in working with the grand jury. It is said that about 50 cases appealed from the city court are to come before Judge Alcorn at this term, most of which are whisky trials.

Judge Alcorn severely scored the so-called good citizens who attempted to shirk their duty when called upon to serve as jurymen.

Atlanta, Ga.
American
7-26-24

Mississippi Probes Meridian Lynching

MERIDIAN, Miss., July 19.—Officials Saturday were investigating the death of Harry Shelton, negro who was taken from the Scooba jail, 45 miles from here, Friday night, and lynched.

Shelton, accused of attempted attack on a white woman near Scooba was hanged from the limb of a tree and his body riddled with bullets.

Lynchings-1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Missouri.

1627

DEMANDS MOB LEADER'S ARREST

CHARLESTON, Mo., Dec. 22.—A reward of $300 has been offered by Governor Arthur Hyde of Missouri for the arrest and conviction of the mob leaders who brutally put to death Roosevelt Grigsby, age twenty years. An investigation into the mob's act is under way here following a message from the Governor last Friday night to Jess Barnett, attorney general. 12-27-24

Grigsby was hanged to a tree in the court yard at Charleston last Wednesday night, when more than 200 men and boys were supposed to have overpowered Sheriff B. B. Jackson and his deputies. The body was riddled with bullets, dragged through the streets and later burned to a crisp by the fiends and barbarians comprising the mob.

Grigsby had been arrested earlier in the evening following what is said to have been his identification by a white girl as the man was supposed to have stepped from the shadows of a dark street and grappled with, but was frightened away by a passing motorist.

The mob slaying, the fiendish in America's annals, came at a time when a white man in South Carolina, had invaded the home of a colored man, called for the man's wife and shot her to death before the eyes of her children and her husband seated at the dinner table. The white man was not lynched.

HYDE INVESTIGATES CHARLESTON LYNCHING

Offers Reward for Arrest of Mob Leaders

CHARLESTON, Mo., Dec. 19.—Investigation was under way today as the result of a message from Governor Hyde to Attorney General Barrett last night following the death of Roosevelt Grigsby, 20, negro, who was hanged, shot and the body dragged through the streets and burned in a bonfire in a vacant lot by a mob. The outburst was prompted by an alleged attack the negro attempted upon a white girl.

Men numbering more than 200 overpowered Sheriff B. B. Jackson and his deputies forced Grigsby from the office where he had been held for questioning and hanged him to a tree in the court yard.

Grigsby had been arrested earlier in the evening following his identification by a 15-year-old girl as the man who stepped from the shadows of a dark street and grappled with her but was frightened away by passing motorists.

As the negro hung from the tree he was shot. His body was cut down, tied behind an automobile and dragged through the streets of the negro settlement. Half a dozen men dragged the body to a vacant lot where a fire was kindled, in which the body was thrown.

Governor Hyde announced he would offer a reward of $300 for the arrest and conviction of the mob leaders.

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 20, 1924

Missouri Governor Offers Reward for Mob Leaders

Investigation Under Way Following Lynching of Negro at Charleston

CHARLESTON, Mo., Dec. 19.—Investigation was under way here to-day as a result of a message from Governor Hyde to Attorney General Barrett last night following the death of Roosevelt Grigsby, twenty years old, negro, who was hanged, shot and his body dragged through the streets and burned by a mob. The outburst was prompted by an alleged attack the negro attempted upon a white girl.

Governor Hyde announced he would offer a reward of $300 for the arrest and conviction of the mob leaders.

The mob's action was the result of racial feeling, intensified by a criminal attack last October upon the wife of a land owner. Forty negroes were arrested, but none was identified.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. News.

DEC 19 1924

LYNCHING OF NEGRO TO BE INVESTIGATED

Hanged, Shot Dragged Over Streets, Then Burned.

Charleston, Mo., Dec. 19.—Investigation was under way today as the result of a message from Gov. Hyde to Atty.-Gen. Barrett last night following the death of Roosevelt Grigsby, 20, negro, who was hanged, shot and the body dragged through the streets and burned in a bonfire in a vacant lot by a mob. The outburst was prompted by an alleged attack the negro attempted upon a white girl.

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Gov. Hyde announced he would offer a reward of $300 for the arrest and conviction of the mob leaders.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Oklahoma.

1628

N. Y. C. EVENING WORLD
JANUARY 4, 1924

YOUTH HELD IN LYNCHING — Marvin Kincannon, twenty-two, alleged leader of a mob that lynched two Negroes in Marlow, Okla., has been arrested with six other alleged members of the mob, all charged with murder.

MOB LEADER IS HELD IN DEATHS AT MARLOW, OKLA.

Duncan, Okla., Jan. 3.—Marvin Kincannon, 22, alleged leader of a mob that caused the deaths Dec. 17 of A. L. Birch, hotel proprietor, and Robert Journegan, his Negro porter, at Marlow, Okla., was bound over today without bond to await trial on murder charges in district court. Six other alleged members of the mob also were held. The case of a seventh was taken under advisement by County Judge Eugene Rice, who conducted the preliminary hearing.

Birch and Journegan were killed when a mob visited Birch's hotel with the announced intention of lynching Journegan, who had remained in Marlow three days in defiance to a tradition of years' standing, that permits no Negro to spend the night in the city. Birch was slain defending the Negro, and Journegan, who was 50 years old and crippled, was shot trying to escape.

LEADER OF MOB GIVEN 25 YEAR SENTENCE

DUNCAN, Okla., May 3.—Marvin Kincannon, 20-year-old youth, charged with the murder of A. Birch, hotelkeeper here, last summer, was found guilty of murder in the second degree by a jury in the district court here this week. He was sentenced to twenty-five years at hard labor in the state prison.

Motion for a new trial was filed immediately after the jury recommended the sentence for the admitted slayer of Birch, white, and his porter, Robert Journegan, during the mob attempt to force the colored man to leave the employ of Birch when hoodlums of Marlowe demanded that all colored residents leave on last December.

Self-defense and insanity was the plea put forward by the defense.

WIFE WANTS DEATH FOR SLAYER OF HUSBAND WHO PROTECTED NEGRO SERVANT

Duncan, Okla., May 3—Mrs. Lula Birch, widow of L. Birch, Marlow Hotel keeper, wants Marvin Kincannon, age 22, Marlow youth, to pay with his life for the slaying of her husband. "I want him to go to the electric chair," she stated in an interview Wednesday. "If the laws of the land do not mean that a person should pay with his life for the taking of human life then we might as well not have any laws."

Duncan, Okla., May 2—Self defense will be Marvin Kincannon's plea to the charge of murder for which he is on trial in district court here.

Kincannon, who is 22 years old and said to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan, is charged with the murder of Al Birch, Marlow Hotel man, and also is charged with murder in connection with the killing of Robert Journigan, aged and cripple Negro porter, who worked for Birch in the Johnston Hotel.

Birch Charge First

The youth, alleged leader of the mob which attempted to force the Negro to leave town, is being tried first on the charge of killing Birch because the county attorney feels there will be more sentiment on the part of the jurors to convict Kincannon for killing a white man than for killing a Negro. His attorney, Joe B. Wilkinson and George Womack, Tuesday said Kincannon will admit firing the shot but will maintain that he fired to protect his life. In questioning the prospective jurors, Wilkinson asked it they believed in the law of self defense.

"Do you believe that under certain conditions under the law of self-defense a man has the right to take human life in defense of his own?" he asked. All answers to this question were in the affairmative.

Death Penalty Sought

Paul Sullivan, county attorney at noon stated the prosecution will ask the death penalty for Kincannon. The state will seek to show the killing of Birch was cold-blooded murder and that the only part the hotel man took was to attempt to protect the crippled Negro from the mob that entered the hotel lobby.

At 11 o'clock Tuesday the second panel was exhausted. A jury had not been obtained and Judge Will Linn, who is hearing the case, ordered Sheriff Bringham Young to bring in a second venire of sixty men.

Lynchings-1924
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Persia.

1629

PERSIA BACKS UP ON DEATH DECREE FOR 2 MURDERERS

Leaders of Mob Which Slew Consul Imbrie Given Commutations by Cabinet Vote.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Washington, October 25.—Diplomatic tension is increasing between the Washington and Teheran governments over failure of the Persian authorities to carry out sentence of death against all three of the men found guilty by a Persian military court of the murder of Robert W. Imbrie, American vice consul at Teheran.

Recent advices reaching Washington show that while the execution of Morteza, a private soldier in the Persian army transport corps, was carried out with due formality, Seyid Hussein, convicted ringleader of the mob that brought Imbrie to death in a hospital, has been granted clemency by the Persian cabinet. His sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, as was that of a third man convicted and sentenced to death for the crime.

State department officials have had no statement to make on the cases since they made public some time ago a detailed report of the execution of Morteza. It is known in diplomatic circles, however, that the procrastination and delay of the Persian authorities in bringing Imbrie's murderers to justice in an adequate way is causing the Washington government serious concern.

There is little doubt that the action of the Teheran cabinet in commuting sentence of Seyid Hussein will be the subject of sharp diplomatic protest from Washington if such a communication has not already gone forward.

Hussein Incited Mob.

Hussein is said to have been conclusively proved by evidence before the military court as well as by the various police and other investigations at the time to have been the chief inciter of the mob which attacked the hospital where Imbrie lay injured as a result of the first attack upon him. The man now granted commutation of sentence led the group which broke down the door and beat Imbrie to death with clubs as he lay on the operating table. Later Hussein proclaimed to those of the mob who could not force their way in that he and those with him had killed the two Americans. Seymour, Imbrie's companion, escaped by a narrow margin, however.

Morteza's part in the murder is declared by those familiar with the official reports and proceedings of the military court to have been much less aggravated than that of Hussein.

In Face of Promises.

Among other elements of delay, it is known that the Persian authorities invoked Moslem law and customs several times. There has been no disposition in Washington to debate this, provided it meant delay only, and the murderers ultimately to be brought to justice. Action of the Persian cabinet in commuting the sentences was taken, however, without any notification to American officials and in the face of reiterated official assurances at the time of the murder that no guilty person would be permitted to go unpunished.

One explanation advanced for the attitude of the Persian cabinet as to Hussein by those familiar with Moslem customs is the fact that he bears the name or title of Seyid, which indicates direct descent from Mohammed and endows the person involved with special privileges. During the Roosevelt administration a similar situation arose over the murder in Persia of an American missionary by a Persian bearing the Seyid title. Several years of sharp diplomatic exchanges were required before satisfaction was obtained.

Whatever the reason, the Washington government will regard the escape of any of the convicted murderers as a gross miscarriage of justice, not to be tolerated. The question goes beyond that of the individual case of Imbrie in the American viewpoint, since the safety of other American officials in several countries and of American and other Christian nationals as well is held to be at stake.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina.

1630

COLUMBIA, S.
JUN 26 1924
Record—

COUNTY MUST PAY FOR LYNCHING

Supreme Court Upholds Verdict Against Allendale County on Negro's Death

Allendale county is liable to damages to the amount of $2,000 for the lynching of Edward Kirkland, who was taken from the sheriff of Allendale on October 24, 1921, his charred body being found that night in the burned ruins o fa negro lodge building. The state supreme court today rendered an opinion affirming the decision of Circuit Judge J. K. Henry, directing a verdict of $2,000 for Lillian B. Kirkland, administratrix of the state of Kirkland, who brought the suit.

Kirkland, a negro, shot and killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white citizen of Appleton, in Allendale county. He ran and was shot in the knee by R. H. Walker, who witnessed the shooting of Eugene Walker. Kirkland was soon arrested and it was found that the wound in the knee was bleeding. The sheriff and R. H. Walker and a Mr. Jones took Kirkland to Gifford, a station on the Seaboard near Appleton, and boarded a train to bring the negro to the state penitentiary in Columbia for safekeeping. At Fairfax a band of masked men boarded the train and took Kirkland away from the sheriff and transported him back to Appleton, by automobile.

At 8 o'clock in the evening the negro lodge building at Appleton was burned, and a charred body of a negro was found in the ruins, a wire cable about the neck. That afternoon at 4 o'clock witnesses saw the body of the negro in an automobile in Appleton, and he appeared to be in dying condition.

The county appealed on the ground that the "evidence was reasonably susceptible of other inference than that the death of the plaintiff's intestate ensued as a proximate result of 'lynching at the hands of a mob.'"

The supreme court holds that the cable about the neck of the charred body of the negro shows that his death was either caused or hastened by the lynching.

"The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon the seriously wounded negro at Fairfax, in taking him from the ostensible custody of the sheriff, in carrying him bleeding and weakened from the loss of blood a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, in leaving hi mthere for an indefinite time, 'in the foot' of an automobile ,more dead than alive, without medical or other attention, sufficiently establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, which appellant assumes to be an essential ingredient of the crime of lynching, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch law."

The opinion was prepared by Associate Justice J. H. Marion.

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The opinion was prepared by Associate Justice J. H. Marion.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.
1625
South Carolina.

LYNCHING INQUIRY SO FAR FRUITLESS

Identity of Negro's Slayers Unknown.

REPORT TO GOVERNOR

State Constable Finds Investigation Without Result—By Small Party.

Investigation so far has failed to bring to light any information concerning the identity of the persons participating in the lynching last Sunday night near Norway of Luke Adams, negro, according to the report of George W. Dukes, state constable, bringing the crime officially to the attention of Gov. Thomas G. McLeod.

"It was impossible to ascertain who committed this lynching," Mr. Dukes said, and, he added, such facts as have previously been made public concerning the taking of the negro from the Norway jail, his identification by his alleged victim and his alleged confession are based upon only hearsay evidence. "Upon determined inquiry," the constable said, "no one could or would say who told them these facts."

Circumstantial evidence would indicate, Mr. Dukes believed, that the lynching party was composed of fewer than ten persons.

It was not preceded or followed by any feeling between whites and negroes in the Norway section of Orangeburg county, the constable said, but came instead as a "great surprise" to them.

Adams, the negro, was accused of attempted criminal assault upon a young white woman.

Mr. Dukes, informed of the crime, went to the scene Monday with various county officers and there assisted them in their inquiry into the lynching, the holding of the coroner's inquest, etc.

"The coroner empaneled a jury and took such testimony as could be secured," the constable said, in telling of his inquiry to date. "parties residing in that neighborhood telling that they had heard a volley of shots in the swamp about 9 o'clock Sunday night and one witness that, while passing along the road early Monday morning, he saw the body and, going to the nearest house, notified the owner and they together notified the sheriff's office at Orangeburg. The coroner's jury found that the negro, Adams, came to his death at the hands of parties unknown. There was no one present at this hearing who knew anything about the shooting of the negro.

"I made the best investigation I could among those present and in that section. It was impossible to ascertain who committed this lynching. From the number of empty shells found and the number of wounds on the body, I would judge the party was less than ten men. All I could gather was that the negro was taken from the Norway jail about dark and carried before the young married woman, who identified him (Luke Adams) as the man who had made the attempted criminal assault upon her, severely choking her. Also I learned that Luke Adams freely confessed to this crime. But upon determined inquiry no one could or would say who told them these facts. . .

"The peace situation in that section is safe. There are no signs of any feeling whatsoever between the whites and negroes in the section and there is no prospect whatsoever of any breach of the peace. The lynching seems neither to have been followed nor preceded by any feeling but was a great surprise to the people of that section."

APR 22 1924

Constable From Orangeburg Tells McLeod of Lynching

George Dukes, chief state constable of Orangeburg, Tuesday conferred with Gov. Thomas G. McLeod after an investigation at the scene of the lynching of Luke Adams, negro, in Orangeburg county yesterday.

When seen this morning the chief executive of the state reiterated his statement made yesterday that no efforts will be spared to bring the true facts to light and ascertain the identity of the guilty parties.

So far the official report has not been received from the Orangecounty authorities, who are expected to submit a statement of their findings to the governor in the next few days.

COUNTY HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR LYNCHING

Must Pay Heir $2,000 in South Carolina

Columbia, S. C., July 4.—Allendale county is liable in damages to the amount of $2,000 for the lynching of Edward Kirkland, who was taken from the sheriff of Allendale on Oct. 24, 1921, his charred body being found that night in the burned ruins of a lodge building. The state Supreme court on June 26 affirmed the decision of Circuit Judge J. K. Henry directing a verdict of $2,000 for Mrs. Lillian B. Kirkland, administratrix of the estate of Edward Kirkland, who brought the suit.

Kirkland, a member of our Race, shot and killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white citizen of Appleton, in Allendale county. He ran and was shot in the knee by R. H. Walker, who witnessed the shooting of Eugene Walker. Kirkland was soon arrested, but it was found that the wound in the knee was bleeding. The sheriff and R. H. Walker and a Mr. Jones took Kirkland to Gifford, a station on the Seaboard near Appleton and boarded a train to bring the man to the state penitentiary in Columbia for safe-keeping. At Fairfax a band of masked men boarded the train and took Kirkland away from the sheriff and transported him back to Appleton by automobile.

At 8 o'clock in the evening a lodge building at Appleton was burned and the charred body of a man was found in the ruins, a wire cable about the neck. That afternoon about 4 o'clock witnesses saw the body of the man in an automobile in Appleton, and he appeared to be in a dying condition.

The county appealed from the decision of the lower court on the ground that the "evidence was reasonably susceptible of other inferences than that the death of the plaintiff ensued as a proximate result of the lynching at the hands of the mob."

The Supreme court held that the cable about the neck of the charred body of Kirkland showed that his death was either caused or hastened by the lynching.

"The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon the seriously wounded man at Fairfax; in taking him from the ostensible custody of the sheriff; in carrying him, bleeding and weakened from the loss of blood, a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton; in leaving him there for an indefinite time in the foot' of an automobile, more dead than alive, without medical or other attention, sufficiently establishes the element by the infliction of physical injury, which appellant assumes to be an essential ingredient of the crime of lynching, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch law."

The opinion was prepared by Associate Justice J. H, Marion.

Sumter S. C. Item

JUN 2 71924

ALLENDALE PENALIZED FOR LYNCHING

Supreme Court Hands Down Decision Upholding Two Thousand Dollar Verdict For Lynching of Negro.

Columbia, June 27.—A directed verdict of $2,000 damages against the county of Allendale for the alleged lynching of Edward Kirkland, negro, October, 1921, was upheld by the supreme court of South Carolina in an opinion handed down yesterday.

The appeal, brought to the court by the county from the decision of Judge J. K. Henry, directing a verdict for the plaintiff, Lillian B. Kirkland, wife of the negro, was bottomed upon the contention that the evidence in the case was "reasonably susceptible of other inferences than that the death of Kirkland ensued as a proximate result of 'lynching at the hands of a mob.' This contention, however, the supreme court denied, holding that the case was one of "lynching within the meaning of the constitution."

Kirkland was shot and wounded in the knee while trying to escape after having killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white man of Allendale county, on the streets of Appleton, October 24, 1921. R. H. Walker, a cousin of the slain man, who had witnessed the slaying and had wounded the negro, followed Kirkland to the outskirts of the town, where the chase was given up for the time.

Shortly afterwards Kirkland was arrested, the sheriff arriving on the scene and finding him in a serious condition because of the wound inflicted by Walker. The sheriff, accompanied by Walker and another citizen, then carried Kirkland to Gifford, a station on the Seaboard Air Line railway in Hampton county, where the officer of the law and his prisoner boarded the train for Columbia.

While passing through Fairfax, in Allendale county, a number of masked men boarded the train, took the prisoner and carried him by automobile back to Appleton. That night at 8 o'clock a negro lodge was burned and in the ruins the next morning was found the corpse of Kirkland.

Attorneys for Allendale county contended in the trial that there was evidence to show death ensued as a result of the gunshot wound. The sheriff testified that Kirkland's condition was such that he expected him to die within a few hour

"Under the undisputed facts," the court held, "we think this was a case .. .. .. of lynching within the meaning of the constitution. The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon this seriously wounded negro, in taking him from the ostensible custody of the sheriff, in carrying him, bleeding and weakened from loss of blood, a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, ... establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury .. .. .. regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or handed in due form of lynch law."

The opinion was by Associate Justice J. H. Marion, Associate Justices R. C. Watts, T. B. Fraser and T. P. Cothran concurring. Chief Justice Eugene B. Gary did not participate in the case.

Allendale S. C. Citizen

JUN 2 71924

COUNTY MUST PAY IN LYNCHING CASE

DECISION IN FAVOR OF WIDOW OF NEGRO MURDERER UPHELD BY SUPREME COURT

Allendale will be obliged to pay damages amounting to $2,000 to Lillian B. Kirkland, widow of Edward Kirkland, negro, alleged to have been lynched by a mob a Appleton, on October 24, 1921. This opinion was handed down on Thursday by Justice J. H. Marion, of the Supreme Court, upholding the decision of the circuit court at Allendale. The decision had previously been given by Judge J. K.

lenry, presiding over the circuit court.

Kirkland, after having shot and killed Eugene Walker, on the streets of Appleton, was escaping when he was shot and wounded in the knee, and was in a serious condition, expected to die within a few hours, when he was taken by the sheriff and taken aboard a train for Columbia. While the train was passing through Fairfax, a number of masked men boarded it, and forcibly took the prisoner, thence conveying him by automobile to Appleton. Next morning, the negro's charred body was found in the ruins of a cabin which was burned following the abduction.

The defense put up by the county was that the negro died as a result of the bullet wound, not by reason of the actions of the mob. The court, however, decided in favor of the widow, and against the county.

"Under the undisputed facts," the court held, "we think this was a case of lynching within the meaning of the constitution. The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon this seriously wounded negro, in taking him from the custody of the sheriff, in carrying him, bleeding and weakend from loss of blood, a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch law."

Newberry S. C. Observer

JUL 1 1924

LYNCHING OF A NEGRO COSTS ALLENDALE $2,000

Supreme Court Decides Widow of Edward Kirkland, Negro, to Get Sum.

Columbia, June 26.—The Supreme court today, in an opinion handed down by Associate Justice J. H. Marion, affirmed judgment of the circuit court of Allendale county directing payment by the county of $2,000 damages in the case of Edward Kirkland, negro, alleged to have been lynched by a mob at Appleton, October 24, 1921.

Judge J. K. Henry, presiding over the circuit court, directed a verdict for the plaintiff, Lillian E. Kirkland, wife of the deceased from which the county appealed.

The appeal questioned the correctness of the ruling of Judge Henry on grounds that the evidence was "reasonably susceptible of other inferences than that the death of Kirkland was caused as a proximate result of lynching at the hands of a mob."

Kirkland was shot and wounded in the knee while trying to escape after having killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white man of the county, on the streets of Appleton. R. H. Walker, a cousin of the deceased, who had witnessed the slaying, followed Kirkland to the outskirts of the town where the chase was given up for the time.

Shortly after, Kirkland was arrested, the sheriff arriving on the scene and finding him in a serious condition because of the wound inflicted by Walker and another citizen, then carried Kirkland to Gifford, a station on the Seaboard Air Line railway in Hampton county, where the officers and his prisoner boarded the train for Columbia.

While passing through Fairfax, in Allendale county, a number of masked men boarded the train, took the prisoner and carried him by automobile back to Appleton. That night at 8 o'clock a negro lodge was burned and in the ruins the next morning was found the corpse of Kirkland.

Attorneys for Allendale county contended in the trial that there was evidence to show death ensued as a result of the gunshot wound. The sheriff testified that Kirkland's condition was such that he expected him to die within a few hours.

"Under the undisputed facts," the court held, "we think this was a case of lynching within the meaning of the constitution. The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon this seriously wounded negro, is taking him from the custody of the sheriff, in carrying him, bleeding and weakened from loss of blood, a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch law."

Yorkville S. C. Enquirer

JUN 28 1924

COUNTY MUST PAY $2,000 FOR NEGRO

LYNCHING COSTS ALLENDALE MONEY.

Supreme Court Rules that Damages Must Be Paid Widow of Man Put to Death.

Columbia, June 26.—The Supreme Court today in an opinion handed down by Associate Justice J. H. Marion, affirmed judgment of the circut court of Allendale county directing payment by the county of $2,000 damages in the case of Edward Kirkland, negro, alleged to have been lynched by a mob at Appleton, S. C., on October 24, 1921.

Judge J. K. Henry, presiding over the circuit court directed verdict for the plaintiff, Lillian B. Kirkland, wife of the deceased, from which the county appealed.

The appeal questioned the correctness of the ruling of Judge Henry on grounds that the evidence was "reasonably susceptible of other interferences than that the death of Kirkland was caused as a proximate result of lynching at the hands of a mob."

Shot In Knee

Kirkland was shot and wounded in the knee while trying to escape after having killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white man of the county, on the streets of Appleton. R. H. Walker, a cousin of the deceased, who had witnessed the slaying followed Kirkland to the outskirts of the town where the chase was given up for a time.

Shortly after Kirkland was arrested the sheriff arriving on the scene and finding him in a serious condition because of the wound inflicted by Walker. The sheriff, accompanied by Walker and another citizen, then carried Kirkland to Gifford, a station of the Seaboard Air Line railway in Hampton county, where the officer and his prisoner boarded the train for Columbia.

While passing through Fairflax, in Allendale county, a number of masked men boarded the train, took the prisoner and carried him by automobile back to Appleton. That night at 8 o'clock a negro lodge was burned and in the ruins the next morning was found the corpse of Kirkland.

Expected Death

Attorneys for Allendale county contended in the trial that there was evidence to show death ensued as a result of the gunshot wounds. The sheriff testified that Kirkland's condition was such that he expected him to die within a few hours.

"Under the undisputed facts," the court held, "we think this was a case of lynching within the meaning of the constitution. The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon this seriously wounded negro, in taking him from the custody of the sheriff, in carrying him, bleeding and weakened from loss of blood a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch laws."

Augusta, Ga. Chronicle

JUN 27 1924

COUNTY MUST PAY COSTS IN CASE OF ALLEGED LYNCHING

Columbia, S. C., June 26.—The supreme court today, in an opinion handed down by Associate Justice J. H. Marion, affirmed judgment of the circuit court of Allendale County directing payment by the county of $2,000 damages in the case of Edward Kirkland, negro alleged to have been lynched by a mob at Appleton, S. C., on October 24, 1921.

Judge J. K. Henry, presiding over the circuit court, directed a verdict for the plaintiff, Lillian B. Kirkland, wife of the deceased, from which the county appealed.

The appeal questioned the correctness of the ruling of Judge Henry on grounds that the evidence was "reasonably susceptible to other inferences than that the death of Kirkland was caused as a proximate result of lynching at the hands of a mob."

Kirkland was shot and wounded in the knee while trying to escape after having killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white man of the county, on the streets of Appleton. R. H. Walker, a cousin of the deceased, who had witnessed the slaying, followed Kirkland to the outskirts of the town where the chase was given up for the time.

Arrested Shortly After.

Shortly after, Kirkland was arrested, the sheriff arriving on the scene and finding him in a serious condition because of the wound inflicted by Walker. The sheriff, accompanied by Walker and another citizen, then carried Kirkland to Gifford, a station on the Seaboard Air Line Railway in Hampton county, where the officer and his prisoner boarded the train for Columbia.

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Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers. 1622

Barnwell S.C. People - July 3-1924 -

ALLENDALE MUST PAY UP DAMAGES

MONEY TO WIDOW OF EDWARD KIRKLAND.

Judge Henry Is Upheld in Directing Verdict for Plaintiff in Lynching Case.

Columbia, June 26.—The Supreme Court today, in an opinion handed down by Associated Justice J. H. Marion, affirmed judgment of the circuit court of Allendale County directing payment by the county of $2,000 damages in the case of Edward Kirkland, negro, alleged to have been lynched by a mob at Appleton, on October 24th, 1921.

Judge J. K. Henry, presiding over the circuit court, directed a verdict for the plaintiff, Lillian Kirkland, of the deceased, from which the county appealed.

The appeal questioned the correctness of the ruling of Judge Henry, on the grounds that the evidence was "reasonably susceptable of other inferences than that the death of Kirkland was caused as a proximate result of lynching at the hands of a mob."

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Attorneys for Allendale County contended in the trial that there was evidence to show death ensued as a result of the gun shot wound. The sheriff testified that Kirkland's condition was such that he expected him to die within a few hours.

"Under the undisputed facts," the court held, "we think this was a case of lynching within the meaning of the constitution. The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon this seriously wounded negro, in taking him from the custody of the sheriff, in carrying him, bleeding and weakened from loss of blood, a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, established the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch law."

Chester S.C. News July 1-1924

COUNTY MUST PAY NEGRO'S WIDOW FOR HIS DEATH

Supreme Court Holds That Black Was Lynched By Mob. Negro Killed White Man's Body Found in Ruins of Building.

Columbia June 26.—The Supreme Court today in an opinion handed down by Associate Justice J. H. Marion, affirmed judgment of the circuit court of Allendale county directing payment by the county of $2,000 damages in the case of Edward Kirkland, negro, alleged to have been lynched by a mob at Appleton, S. C., on October 24, 1921.

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Shot In Knee

Kirkland was shot and wounded in the knee while trying to escape after having killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white man of the county, on the streets of Appleton, R. H. Walker, a cousin of the deceased, who had witnessed the slaying, followed Kirkland to the outskirts of the town where the chase was given up for a time.

Shortly after, Kirkland was arrested, the sheriff arriving on the scene and finding him in a serious condition because of the wound inflicted by Walker. The sheriff, accompanied by Walker and another citizen, then carried Kirkland to Gifford, a station of the Seaboard Air Line railway in Hampton county, where the officer and his prisoner boarded the train for Columbia.

While passing through Fairfax, in Allendale county, a number of masked men boarded the train, took the prisoner and carried him by automobile back to Appleton. That night at 8 o'clock a negro lodge was burned and in the ruins the next morning was found the corpse of Kirkland.

Expected Death

Attorneys for Allendale county contended in the trial that there was evidence to show death ensued as a result of the gunshot wounds. The sheriff testified that Kirkland's condition was such that he expected him to die within a few hours.

"Under the undisputed facts," the court held, "we think this was a case of lynching within the meaning of the constitution. The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon this seriously wounded negro, in taking him from the custody of the sheriff, in carrying him, bleeding and weakened from loss of blood a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch laws."

COUNTIES MUST STOP LYNCHINGS

S. C. Supreme Court Holds Them Liable for Damages.

Negro Woman Whose Husband Is Killed by Mob in Allendale Is Awarded $2,000.

Special to The Observer.

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 26—Allendale county is liable to damages to the amount of $2,000 for the lynching of Edward Kirkland, who was taken from the sheriff of Allendale on October 24, 1921, his charred body being found that night in the burned ruins of a negro lodge building. The state supreme court today rendered an opinion affirming the decision of Circuit Judge J. K. Henry, directing a verdict of $2,000 for Lillian B. Kirkland, administratrix of the estate of Kirkland, who brought the suit.

Kirkland, a negro, shot and killed Eugene Walker, a prominent white citizen of Appleton in Allendale county. He ran and was shot in the knee by R. H. Walker, who witnessed the shooting of Eugene Walker. Kirkland was soon arrested, and it was found that the wound in the knee was bleeding. The sheriff and R. H. Walker and a Mr. Jones took Kirkland to Gifford, a station on the Seaboard, near Appleton, and boarded a train to bring the negro to the state penitentiary in Columbia for safe keeping. At Fairfax a band of masked men boarded the train and took Kirkland away from the sheriff and transported him back to Appleton by automobile.

At 8 o'clock in the evening the negro lodge building at Appleton was burned, and a charred body of a negro was found in the ruins, a wire cable about the neck. That afternoon at 4 o'clock witnesses saw the body of the negro in an automobile, in Appleton, and he appeared to be in dying condition.

The county appealed on the ground that the "evidence was reasonably susceptible of other inference than that the death of the plaintiff's intestate ensued as a proximate result of 'lynching at the hands of a mob.'"

The supreme court holds that the cable about the neck of the charred body of the negro shows that his death was either caused or hastened by the lynching.

"The action of the mob in laying violent hands upon the seriously wounded negro at Fairfax, in taking him from the ostensible custody of the sheriff, in carrying him bleeding and weakened from the loss of blood a considerable distance by automobile to the town of Appleton, in leaving him there for an indefinite time, 'in the foot' of an automobile, more dead than alive, without medical or other attention, sufficiently establishes the element of summary punishment by the infliction of physical injury, which appellant assumes to be an essential ingredient of the crime of lynching, regardless of whether the victim was thereafter burned or hanged in due form of lynch law."

The opinion was prepared by Associate Justice J. H. Marion.

1622

Lynchings - 1924.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Virginia.

1623

Wounded Negro Feigns Death While Mob Holds Ceremonial

Fairmont, W. Va., Aug. 9.—A story of how a negro with a bullet wound in his back feigned death while a hooded mob conducted a ceremonial over him on a lonely farm near here last February, was revealed by authorities today following the arrest last night of seven men on charges of conspiracy to murder.

Those arrested on warrants sworn out by Prosecuting Attorney Amos are: The Rev. E. O. Jones, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, Shinnston; Joseph B. Cox, coal operator; Guy Utterback, T. O. Meredith, Beverly Garrett, Clyde Hughes and J. A. Landis. Utterback, Garret and Landis were committed to jail but the others were released under $10,000 bail each.

The Rev. Mr. Jones, according to Prosecutor Amos, is an officer of the Ku Klux Klan in West Virginia and Utterback, also was an officer in the organization until last Wednesday, when his term expired.

The negro, Daniel Washington, was a chef at a hotel here when, authorities say, he made advances to a waitress. Arrangements were made, they say, for a tryst between Washington and the woman at the farm on the night of February 29, and when Washington arrived he was surrounded by masked and robed men. He tried to escape and was shot in the back. Dragged into a nearby ravine, the negro feigned death and the ceremonial was held. After the masked men had departed, he crawled to the road and was taken to a hospital by a passing motorist.

The woman and her husband were indicted for the shooting and were brought back here from St. Louis, where they were arrested. Authorities say they have confessed and have revealed the names of the other members of the mob.

Lynchings—1924.
Legal Punishment — Lynchers.

West Virginia.

1624

PASTORS ARE FLOGGERS IN KU KLUX MOB

Indict Ministers For Shooting Man

Fairmont, W. Va., Sept. 26.—The Rev. E. O. Jones, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Shinnston, general kleagle of the realm of West Virginia Knights of the Ku Klux Klan; the Rev. J. Walter Barnes, pastor of the Baptist Temple of this city, and 14 other white men prominent in the local operations of the klan, were indicted here by the Marion county grand jury in connection with the shooting of Daniel Washington Feb. 29.

The shotoing followed Washington's keeping an appointment with Mrs. R. C. Brown, a white woman. The story is that Mrs. Brown and Washington were employed in the same hotel in this city and that Mrs. Brown handed a note to Washington on the day of the shooting asking him to hire a taxi and to meet her at a point on the Fairmont and Grafton pike about five miles from this city.

Shot in Back

Washington kept the appointment and met Mrs. Brown at the place that had been designated. Washingotn and Mrs. Brown walked from the highway into a field, passing close to a hay stack. Men in white sheets and hoods opened fire on Washington, who was shot in the back. He was then dragged some distance and was thrown into a ravine. A ceremonial was held over him and his assailants departed.

Washington later crawled to the roadside and was found there. He was brought to this city and placed in a hospital. He told his story to the authorities. He recovered and has been in jail for several months.

Mrs. Brown and her husband left this city almost immediately after Washington had been shot. County officers kept an earnest vigil for them but nothing could be learned of their whereabouts, until after a woman named Nell Ferguson came to Fairmont, had a quarrel with the Rev. E. O. Jones, and had him arrested for assaultnig her.

Arrest Couple

The Ferguson woman then told the officers where the Browns were in St. Louis. Her information was correct.

The Browns were arrested and brought to this city and have been in the Marion county jail ever since. Following Brown's arrest, others said to be connected with the shooting were arrested. On Aug. 8 all of them were released on $10,000 bond except Brown and his wife, who were unable to give bond.

Lynchings — 1924
Legislation Relating to.

1649

MEMPHIS, TENN. Com'l Appeal
JAN 12 1924

The Dyer "Lynching" Bill.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill is not only one of the most brazen exhibitions of Republican hypocrisy ever staged in Congress, but it is a positive menace to the lives of those for whom its proponents profess to be concerned.

It is fundamentally a vote-catching scheme. It is so palp. ly unconstitutional that we doubt if any of its backers believe for a moment it would stand the test of the courts. Not only Democrats, but some of the ablest Republicans in Congress have pointed out and emphasized its vulnerable points.

The bill would have the federal judiciary usurp the function of the state courts. Its most flagrant invasion of constitutional safeguards, however, is the proposal to penalize the whole people of a community for the criminal acts of the few.

As reported out of the House judiciary committee, the bill provides that the county in which a lynching occurs shall pay to the family of the victim the sum of $10,000. This money, of course, could come from only one source—out of the pockets of the taxpayers of that county. Those who most actively oppose lynchings, even those who jeopardize their lives to prevent them, would share the burden which the proposed penalty would impose. The injustice and the unconstitutionality of such a law are too obvious to justify argument.

As to the trial of lynchers themselves by federal instead of state courts, the constitution of the United States rises as an insurmountable barrier. Articles six and 10 of the 10 original amendments to the constitution, which were proposed at the first session of the first Congress, and adopted by the necessary number of states, are as follows:

"Article Six—In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed.

"Article Ten—The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."

But factitious politicians are never seriously concerned about a little thing like the constitution of the United States when organizing their vote-hunting parties.

However, those to whom this anti-lynching bill sop is thrown would do well to consider this eventuality:

It is probable that the Dyer act would be the direct cause of more lynchings than it would prevent.

We know that insurance companies must ever be on guard against acts of violence on the part of those who are named as beneficiaries in insurance policies. It is a matter of record that the vicious sometimes plan and bring about the death of the insured, in order that they may collect the insurance. It cannot be disputed that men and women belonging to the white race have been guilty of such atrocities.

What assurance, then, has the innocent negro that an unknown enemy—or even an alleged friend or relative—actuated by malice or the hope of being directly or indirectly benefited in financial way, might not unjustly accuse him, incite the rabble of a community to violence, and make of him a sacrifice to the greed for gain?

The sum of $10,000 is a tempting prize to those devoid of conscience.

No well-informed person questions for a moment that the Dyer anti-lynching bill was revived at this time for any save political reasons. If those congressmen behind it know anything at all about statistics pertaining to summary executions, they know that during 1923 lynchings were 50 per cent less than during the previous year.

And if they were sincere in their professions of regard for the welfare of the negro race, they would throw off the mask and assist southern Democrats in an honest attempt to prevent lynchings entirely, instead of advocating a law that would create the motive and supply the rope or torch to do to the death those who are guiltless of crime.

Surely The Commercial Appeal does not believe in lynching. No man, nobody of men, has a right to take the law into his own hands. In the beginning men pledged themselves to certain things and gave up certain privileges for the common good of organized society.

We canont call upon the law one da and ignore the law another day. The supremacy of the law is a thing of great importance, but obedience to the law on the part of the individua is the thing that concerns us most. A mere man cannot himself make the law supreme, but every man can obey the law. If every man does obey the law, then truly is the law supreme.

In spite of the turmoil and unrest in this country, lynchings are being reduced. In spite of the mouthings and nateful words and the bad humor of many people, we see signs of a decrease in crimes of violence. Men are gradually coming to see that murder and manslaughter solved nothing settled nothing and do untold injury even to survivors.

We do not believe the Dyer bill will accomplish the purpose that its sincere advocates think it will. We believe that as to the number of lynchings it might be provocative of more, we believe that out of it might grow hatreds, where there should be forbearance. The effort to pass this bill in Congress is a mistake. The bill as a law will acomplish no good. It might more accurately be named "The Lynching Bill."

OHIO'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

LEADS THE COUNTRY IN EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION

Against The Mob and Lynch-Murder—The Work of a Member of The Race—Also His Ohio Civil Rights Law

Our mob-violence or anti-lynching bill was introduced in the Ohio legislature in 1894 and re-introduced in 896. It took the Hon. Harry C. Smith, editor of The Gazette, just three years to secure its enactment into law. The Ohio Supreme Court has several times upheld the constitutionality of the law and it has been very effective. Illinois, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have followed Ohio's lead and enacted mob violence or anti-lynching laws which are copies of our Ohio law. Several other northern states and at least one border state (Kentucky) have also enacted anti-lynching laws, in recent years, like Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Ohio law follows:

MOBS.

Section
6278. "Mob" and "lynching" defined.
6279. "Serious injury" defined.
6280. Damages in case of assault.
6281. Damages in case of lynching.
6282. Damages recoverable by legal representative of victim of lynching.
6283. Person suffering death or injury by mob trying to lynch another.
6284. Limitations of action.
6285. Order to include recovery and costs in tax levy.
6286. Guardian's custody, etc., fees.
6287. County's right of action against member of mob.
6288. County's right of action against another county.
6289. Non-relief from prosecution.

Section 6278. A collection of people assembled for an unlawful purpose and intending to do damage or injury to any one, or pretending to exercise correctional power over other persons by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed a "mob" for the purpose of this chapter. An act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person shall constitute a "lynching" within the meaning of this chapter. (93 v. 161 2.)

Section 6279. The term "serious injury," for the purpose of this chapter, shall include such injury as permanently or temporarily disables the person receiving it from earning a livelihood by manual labor. (93 v. 161 3.)

Section 6280. A person taken from officers of justice by a mob and assaulted with whips, clubs, missiles or in any other manner, may recover, as hereafter provided, a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars as damages from the county in which the assault is made. (93 v. 161 4.)

Section 6281. A person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover from the county in which such assault is made a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by manual labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars. (93 v 162 5.)

Section 6282. The legal representative of a person dying from injuries received from lynching by a mob, may recover of the county in which such injury occurred, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars damages for such unlawful killing. Such sum shall be applied to the maintenance of the family and education of the minor children of such person so lynched, if any survive him, until such children are of legal age, and then be distributed to the survivors, share and share alike, the widow receiving an amount equal to a child's share. If there be no widow or minor children surviving such decedent, such sum shall be distributed among the next of kin according to the laws of the distribution of the personality of an intestate. Such

...ered shall not be ... of the estate of such person so lynched, nor be subject to any of his liabilities. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6283. A person suffering death or injury from a mob attempting to lynch another person shall come within the provisions of this chapter. He or his legal representatives shall have a like right of action as one purposely injured or killed by such a mob. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6284. Action for the recoveries provided for in this chapter must be commenced, within two years from the date of such lynching, in any court having original jurisdiction of an action for damages for malicious assault. (93 v. 162 7.)

Section 6285. An order to the commissioners of a county, against which such recovery is had, to include it with the costs of action, in the next succeeding tax levy for such county, shall be a part of the judgment in every such case. (93 v. 162 8.)

Section 6286. If the decedent so lynched has minor children surviving him, the fund shall be turned over to a regularly appointed guardian. Such guardian shall administer such fund under the direction of the probate judge, allowing not more than five hundred dollars for counsel fees in the action for such recovery. (93 v. 162 9.)

Section 6287. The county, in which a lynching occurs, may recover the amount of a judgment and costs against it in favor of the legal representatives of a person killed or seriously injured by a mob from any of the persons composing such mob. A person present, with hostile intent, at such lynching shall be deemed a member of the mob and be liable to such action. (93 v. 162 10.)

Section 6288. If a mob carries a prisoner into another county, or comes from another county to commit violence on a prisoner brought from such county for safekeeping, the county in which the lynching is committed may recover the amount of the judgment and costs from the county from which the mob came, unless there was contributory negligence on the part of officials of such county in failing to protect such prisoner or dispurse such mob. (93 v. 163 11.)

Section 6289. This chapter shall not relieve a person concerned in such lynching from prosecution for homicide or assault for engaging therein. (93 v. 163 12.)

OUR OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Upon the request of many readers of The Gazette we print below the text of the Hon. Harry C. Smith's Ohio Civil Rights law which the editor had enacted while a member of the 71st General Assembly, in 1894:

The General Code of Ohio:

Sec. 12940. Whoever, being the proprietor or his employee, keeper or manager of an inn, restaurant, eating house, barber-shop, public conveyance by land or water, theater or other place of public accommodation and amusement, denies to a citizen, except for reasons applicable alike to all citizens and regardless of race or color, the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days, or both.

Sec. 12941. Whoever violates the next preceding section shall also pay not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county where such offense was committed.

This law has repeatedly been held Ohio Supreme court. The trouble is constitutional and good law by the our people will not use it as often as they should, but expect it to do for them what they should and must do for themselves, under it, in the courts.

Judge Grant's Opinion of the Law.

Riled by the foolishly manufactured outcry for the passage of the Beaty bill, a few years ago, the Akron Beacon Journal published an editorial to which the editor of The Gazette replied, calling its attention to the fact that the Ohio Civil Rights law was good law and did not need amending. The following letter from Judge Grant former presiding judge of the Court of Appeals of the Eighth District of Ohio, is self explanatory:

Akron, O., April 25, 1919.

Hon. Harry C. Smith,
Editor The Gazette, Cleveland, O.

My Dear Sir: Observing your letter in the Beacon-Journal, of this city, I venture to send you, under a separate cover, the Ohio Law Reporter of Feb. 3, last, containing the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the **Puritan Lunch Co. vs. Leonard H. Forman**, decided in Akron, last fall, in which a judgment for ($500) five hundred dollars was sustained. If the Beacon-Journal had known what was going on in its own town, there would have been no occasion for criticism editorially. **THE LAW OF OHIO IS UNDER NO REPROACH**, nor our courts and juries, in administering it. Not a word was said by the Beacon-Journal when the Forman case was reviewed.

Very truly yours,
R. C. Grant

MAKES OFFER TO RAISE TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HELP FIGHT MOB LAW

Boston Attorney Gives One Thousand Dollars On Condition That N. A. A. C. P. Raise Nine Thousand By March 10. Donor Has Done Much Toward Combatting Mob Violence In This Country During The Past Few Years. All Can Help.

Special to The Argus.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.—Philip G. Peabody, a noted lawyer of Boston, who has for a number of years been interested in the Anti-Lynching fight waged by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has sent that body a check for $500 and has further offered $1,000 to complete a fund of $10,000, if the N. A. A. C. P. will raise the other $9,000 in a period of 60 days, the final date set being March 10, 1924.

The N. A. A. C. P. has begun an intensive campaign to raise the money to meet Mr. Peabody's offer.

Mr. Peabody has long been an active supporter of the N N. A. A. C. P. Since 1913 he has contributed in cash $7,992.50 besides his legal advice particularly with regard to Federal Anti-Lynching Legislation. Mr. Peabody is practically the father of the Anti-Lynching Fund with which the N. A. A. C. P. has been able to wage so effective a campaign against mob violence. In 1916 he offered $1,000 towards such a fund provided $9,000 be raised. The latter amount was obtained by the N. A. A. C. P. and with the $10,000 thus obtained the intensive campaign of investigation and publicity was started which culminated in the introduction in Congress of the Anti-Lynching Bill.

James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. in announcing Mr. Peabody's generous offer, said:

"Mr. Peabody has asked the Colored people of the United States a question. He has said to them: Do you really want to see lynching stopped, Negroes protected in court, and discrimination fought? If you do are you willing to pay—the price?

"The bulk of the $9,000 to meet Mr. Peabody's offer must come from Colored people and properly so. But white friends will help. Already one of them has volunteered to give $500. There are many Colored men and women with us in spirit, who can now translate that spirit into action. To obain Mr. Peabody's $1,000, we must have in the National Office by March 10, $9,000 to meet his generous offer. Present contributors to the N. A. A. C. P. can help in two ways: by contributing themselves and by soliciting contributions from those who have not given before.

"I believe the Colored people of the United States are interested enough in their own welfare to meet this offer."

OHIO FEDERATION OF LABOR SUPPORTS ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 4.—By a practically unanimous vote the Ohio Federation of Labor went on record as opposing the practice of lynching and endorsing the Dyer measure to make lynching a federal crime.

The resolution says: "Whereas, Lynching is a violation of the Constitution of the United States; the Constitution of the United States does not embody the penalty for such violation; the Dyer anti-lynching bill provides for definite punishment for said violation; lynching is a disgrace to our country; it is a moral wrong, and the Dyer anti-lynching bill will, if it becomes an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, have a tendency to blot out lynching in the United States. Therefore, be it resolved, That the Ohio State Federation of Labor go on record as urging the senators and representatives of the state of Ohio to use their influence in favor of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which will be reintroduced in Congress at its present session."

ORANGEBURG, S. C., [illegible]

JAN 1 2 1924

The Dyer anti-lynching bill has been favorably reported by the judiciary committee of the national House of Representatives, which provides for federal jurisdiction in lynching cases. It will be challenged by Southern representatives as an inroad upon state's rights. There can be little question but that the only purpose behind the Republican activity is to influence black votes in Northern states. While the best thought of the South condemns lynching and is engaged in trying to build up local sentiment against such outrages and while this newspaper has not hesitated to condemn lynchings in Orangeburg County at the time they occurred within past years, we do not believe that the final settlement of the racial problems will be improved or accelerated by federal meddling. The race problem, if solved peaceably and permanently, will have to be adjusted by the white and colored folks of the South between themselves.

Lynchings—1924.
Legislation Relating to,
Anderson, S. C.

1650

JAN 16 1924

DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL WOULD SERVE NO GOOD PURPOSE IN ANY SECTION.

WE AGREE with The Atlanta Constitution that the Dyer anti-lynching bill is a dangerous rather than a desirable measure. Its passage by Congress would serve no good purpose in any section of the United States. It is exceedingly objectionable because it represents another attempted assertion of Federal authority over State sovereignty, and would be the forging of another link binding the nation to the control of oligarchical government.

Pre-emption of the police powers of the State by the general government will be of disastrous consequence if it proceeds much farther. Every time the Federal government steps in and proposes even to divide with the State government responsibility for the maintenance of law and order within the commonwealth, the situation becomes more complicated, and the practice of "passing of the buck" increases.

The responsibility for enforcing every law—for maintaining law and order—must be specific and exclusive. "Concurrent jurisdiction" is essential for general law enforcement. It is wrong in principle and comparatively barren of results when applied to the exercise of particular police powers. In our opinion this explains much of the laxness in the enforcement of prohibition. Results will be even more deplorable if the same system is extended to cover the "lynching evil." Not only a conflict, but even a clash of authority, is likely to result therefrom.

When prohibition became a part of the national law, it was clearly realized that the task of enforcement would be a collosal one. That was undoubtedly the real reason why the "concurrent jurisdiction" clause was inserted. But it was a mistake. It resulted in a case of "what's everybody's business is nobody's business." It gave an excuse for the evasion of a certain amount of responsibility for enforcement.

A similar situation must not be allowed to arise in connection with the curbing of mob violence, especially at a time when public opinion is being crystallized against this great evil, and as a result courts and peace officers are daily getting more starch in their backbones.

The fact that South Carolina has been without a lynching for two years past is evidence of the fact that the only remedy for mob violence — enlightened public sentiment — is being effectively brought to bear. The passage of the Dyer bill would challenge that sentiment by an implied doubt of its sincerity and efficacy, and in that respect alone incalculable harm would be done — possibly nullifying the reform that has already occurred, and setting us back where we were a quarter of a century ago.

The Constitution well says that "if a trial by jury in a state court cannot convict defendants charged with lynching, there is no good reason to suppose that a federal court in the same jurisdiction can do any better." This presumption is correct because the same type of the citizenship composes juries in both Federal and State courts.

The trouble with this Dyer anti-lynching bill is that it was framed largely for political purposes, and intended principally as an insult to the South. The most dangerous feature about it is the Northern negro propaganda back of it, and the fact that men like Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, dishonors the vigorous Anglo-Saxon name he bears by urging the negroes to support passage of the bill.

What will the passage of such a measure, with negro suport, aimed at the South particularly (although lynching is not by any means confined to this part of the country) do to sentiment here in this section? What will the reaction be? Will it tend to ameliorate interracial relations, which are constantly improving, or will the reverse be true?

We leave it largely to our readers to answer. But our own opinion is that the reaction will be disastrous, and that the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, instead of improving the situation, will intensify such racial animosity as may exist and create more of it, with the result that we shall be in a far worse condition than at present.

The Dyer "Lynching" Bill.

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Commercial Appeal 1-12-24

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In spite of the turmoil and unrest in this country, lynchings are being reduced. In spite of the mouthings and hateful words and the bad humor of many people, we see signs of a decrease in crimes of violence. Men are gradually coming to see that murder and manslaughter solved nothing.

settled nothing and do untold injury even to survivors.

We do not believe the Dyer bill will accomplish the purpose that its sincere advocates think it will. We believe that as to the number of lynchings it might be provocative of more, we believe that out of it might grow hatreds, where there should be forbearance. The effort to pass this bill in Congress is a mistake. The bill as a law will acomplish no good. It might more accurately be named "The Lynching Bill."

LYNCHING BILL, PET OF G. O. P., REPORTED OUT

Democrats' Hard Fight to Prevent Action Futile.

EARLY ACTION SOUGHT

Dyer Measure, Killed by Democratic Filibuster in Last Congress, Levies Heavy Penalties for Lynchings.

BY R. M. GATES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—Over the protesting votes of the Democratic members the House committee on the judiciary today reported out the Dyer anti-lynching bill which passed the House of the Sixty-seventh Congress by a majority of 100 but failed of passage in the Senate because of a filibuster led by Senator Underwood of Alabama, who at that time was minority floor leader. Representative Tillman of Arkansas, fought hard to prevent favorable committee action but his protests were in vain.

The Republicans voted solidly to report out the bill. Judge Tillman called the attention of the committee to a recent report issued by Tuskegee Institute showing that the number of lynchings in 1923 were 50 per cent below the number recorded in 1922.

Substitutes Voted Down.

He proposed that the committee postpone action until the governors of southern states could be heard. Another proposal was that a number of recognized constitutional lawyers of the country be invited to discuss the constitutionality of the bill for the benefit of the committee. These proposals were rejected, and the majority members of the committee voted to report out the bill and emphasized its importance by marking it No. 1. This means, Judge Tillman today said, that an attempt would be made to give it a legislative status ahead of such conceded important legislation as tax reduction, farmer relief and the bonus.

The chairman of the judiciary committee was instructed to seek a special rule that the bill may be brought up in the House for discussion and final action without delay. Obviously the haste of the Republican dominated judiciary committee in reporting out the anti-lynching bill is due to the fact that a presidential campaign impends. The ablest lawyers in both houses of Congress have declared it very vulnerable from a constitutional viewpoint, and those so holding included a number of Republicans who voted against it last year.

United States Would Prosecute.

The bill not only provides that a fine or penalty of $10,000 shall be paid to the family of the person who may come to his death at the hands of a mob by the residents of the county in which the lynching occurs, but it provides also that the persons arrested for alleged participation in the mob shall be tried in the federal court.

The opponents of the bill on legal grounds contend that if state courts are to be thus ignored in a case of alleged mob violence what is to prevent the ignoring of state courts even in a plain case of assault and battery or in any other case in which the jurisdiction of state courts now is recognized. No bill yet proposed in either House, it is claimed, contemplates the absolute usurpation of the functions of the courts of the sovereign estates as does the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Should this bill pass the House there would seem to be grave doubt as to the ability of its proponents in the Senate to shove it through that body as any attempt to do so is sure to be resisted by another Democrat filibuster, aided by some Republicans.

JAN 13 1924

...rgians in congress are ...their plans to fight the ...-lynching bill, which has ...reported from the ju... committee. This measure... ed by the Republican admin... n, would give the federal... jurisdiction to try persons ... of lynch law and mob vio... and would fine any county ...ich a lynching occurs. The ...lans will oppose the bill on the ...d that it invades the rights of the states, foments trouble and will not decrease lynching. Practically all members are preparing arguments against the Dyer bill and Representative Brand, a former judge, probably will discuss the constitutional phases involved.

Since appointments to Annapolis and West Point by senators and congressmen are limited, and most of the quotas are filled, Senators Harris and George and members of the house delegation direct attention to a forthcoming examination at Savannah of prospective cadets and cadet engineers in the coast guard. This competitive examination will be held commencing April 7. Young men who desire to take the examination can obtain detailed information

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JANUARY 8, 1924

COL. ROOSEVELT AND THE DYER BILL.

"Lynching," as Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, states, "has been a stench in the nostrils of all liberty-loving, law-abiding Americans." It is also true, as Col. Roosevelt asserts, that "there can be no compromise on the Klan," which "strikes at the root of Americanism."

But when Mr. Roosevelt recommends the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill to Negro voters as a remedy for both evils he is wide of the mark. The Dyer measure is political in origin and would have only a political effect if passed. When communities organise to commit and to conceal the perpetrators of crimes, the Federal Government is quite as powerless as State Governments to bring about prosecutions and convictions.

The best remedy for lynching and for the Klan, as the figures for 1923 demonstrate, is Negro migration. When Negro workmen began to leave for the North in large numbers there was a sudden decline in mob murders in the South. Once the Negro realizes the possibilities of this economic weapon, and uses it to the full, he will exert a more powerful influence against night-riding than would be exerted by a dozen Federal statutes.

Just what the Dyer bill might be worth as a protection against lynching is accurately gauged by the impotence of the Fifteenth Amendment as an article of enfranchisement.

New Orleans, La.
Birmingham

JAN 27 1924

STATES STAND ON MEASURE TO STOP LYNCHING

Abernethy Makes His Position in the Matter Clear in a Statement Issued

Representative Charles L. Abernethy, of this city, who recently expressed his opposition, to the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which has been reported favorably to congress, and his determintion to fight the measure, has issued a statement containing his views on the matter. The statement follows:

"This bill is now on the house calendar with a majority in its favor from the Judiciary committee.

"The bill, if enacted into law will do more than any other agency to aggravate the race situation in every southern state.

"At the present time the races in North Carolina are dwelling together in peace and quietitude. The colored race has the equal protection and opportunities under our laws.

"It is an outstanding fact that our preset governor and previous governors of the state have protected the individual against mob violence. So jealous have been our governors of the rights of the individual that they have ordered out troops in numerous instances to protect threatened violence of the humblest citizie, even though charged with the most heinous crimes, without reference to the color of the individual.

"Every good citizen condemns lynching. North Carolina, through its duly constituted officers has been able to handle this matter in North Carolina.

"The Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, among other things, provides that when any State or county fails, neglects or refuses to provide and maintain protection to the life of any person within its jurisdiction against any mob or riotous assemblyage, the county in which a person is put to death by such mob or riotous assemblage shall forfeit $10,000 for the use of the family, if any, of the person so put to death if he has no family, then to his parents, if any; otherwise for the use of the United States.

"What legislation could be more far reaching in its effects and more unfair and unjust than this bill.

"This bill will be opposed vigorously by every southern representative and Senator in congress. The fate of the bill at this time is shrouded in doubt."

Lynchings - 1924.
Legislation Relating to.

1651

REPEAL ANTI-KLAN LAW IN NEW YORK STATE

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 7—(P. N. S.)—A bill seeking the repeal of the state anti-klan law, which was passed last year, was introduced in the assembly last Thursday by Assemblyman John Boyle, Jr., of Long Island. Under the law, secret fraternal organizations are required to file with the secretary of state complete lists of memberships and officials.

Norfolk Journal & Guide 2-16-24

R. I. LEGISLATURE DEMANDS DYER BILL

HOUSE 1105 RESOLUTION PASSED AT REQUEST OF AND BY WORK OF W. H. JACKSON OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN OF NATIONAL EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE

R. I. House 1105

JANUARY SESSION, A. D., 1924

RESOLUTION

Endorsing the passage by Congress of House Bill No. 1, relating to the crime of lynching.

The Guardian 5-2-24 Boston, Mass.

WHEREAS, There is now pending in congress House bill No. 1, being a bill to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every state the equal protection of the laws and to punish the crime of lynching; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the general assembly of the state of Rhode Island respectfully requests its senators and representatives in Congress to favor the passage of said House bill, No. 1, and the secretary of state is hereby instructed to communicate a copy of this resolution to each of said senators and representatives in Congress from Rhode Island.

In a letter from Congressman L. C. Dyer a few days ago, he inclosed a communication from the chairman of the House Committee on Rules in which the committee tells why it had failed to report the anti-lynching bill to the House, so that, that body could vote on the same during the present Congress.

Argus 6-13-24

We are making public these letters that the readers of this paper may know just how this matter has been handled during the present Congress.

Letter to the Argus

"The Argus of Friday, May 30, had a very splendid editorial upon Bill (H. R. 1). You are doing a great work in helping this night. I congratulate you upon the position you have taken with reference to political and other questions affecting the Race. I am enclosing a copy of a letter, that I wrote to the Chairman of the Rules Committee of the House and his reply.

"With best wishes, I am,
Very truly yours,
L. C. Dyer."

Letter to Chairman Snell

May 24, 1924

Hon. Bertrand H. Snell, Chairman,
Committee on Rules,
My dear Colleague:

"Information has come to me indicating that it is not the intention of the Committee on Rules to vote a special Rule for the consideration of the Bill (H. R. 1), which was reported by me, from the Judiciary Committee of the House on January 19, 1924. On January 21, I introduced a Resolution, (H. Res. 154) for the immediate consideration of (H. R. 1), the Anti-lynching Bill. I have continually urged favorable consideration of this request by the Committee on Rules.

"I take it that there exists some good reason why no action has been had. As I have and am receiving many requests for information touching this matter, and asking why no action has been had in this Congress, so far, I would be very much obliged to you if you would write me fully, what caused the Committee on Rules to do nothing regarding it.

"This will enable me to better reply to the many requests coming to me for the information indicated. I enclose a copy of the Bill (H. R. 1), the Report (No. 71), and the Resolution, (H. Res. 154), which is referred to in this letter.

"Very truly yours,
L. C. Dyer."

Snell's Reply

June 2, 1924.

Hon. Leonidas C. Dyer,
My dear Colleague:

"In reply to your letter to me of May 24, copies of which letter I am imformed you sent to the other majority Members of the Committee on Rules, I beg to make the following statement for your information touching this matter.

"I have stated to you a number of times that I was in favor of this legislation, known as the anti-lynching bill. The majority of the Members of the Committee on Rules are in accord with my views touching the desirability of this legislation being enacted into law. We all remember the fight that was made to enact similar legislation into law in the last Congress, and that it passed the House of Representatives after a long fight and filibuster, but failed to get a vote in the Senate, due to a filibuster there. If we had brought out a special rule to consider this bill in the House this session, it would have caused the same fight and filibuster that it caused in the House in the last Congress. We eventually would probably have been able to get a vote in the House, and would, of course, have passed it again.

"Due to the House being almost evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats in this Congress we would have had greater delay in this matter than we had in the last Congress. This would have meant that necessary legislation, including taxation and appropriation bills, would have been dangerously delayed and probably some of them failing to become laws. Even if we had passed it at this Session in the House, there would apparently have been no chance for its favorable consideration in the Senate. Conditions there in this Congress are not near so good for this legislation as they were in the last Congress, and we all know how successfully a very Democratic Senators in the last Congress prevented its coming to a vote through their filibuster.

"The colored people are intelligent and they appreciate the situation that exists at the present time regarding this legislation. It is largely with regard to their feeling that I do not believe it the thing to do for the House to pass this bill at this time, just prior to election, when there is no chance for it to pass the Senate at this Session and prior to the election. I believe it much better that it go over until the next Session. The election would then have passed and no politics or attempt to fool the colored people can be charged when we come to consider it in the House and in the Senate.

"Very truly yours,
B. H. Snell, Chr. Rules Com."

COMMITTEE TELLS WHY ANTI-LYNCH LAW FAILED

Rules Committee Considers Question Of Taxation More Important Than Human Life. Fear Of Democrats Also Given As Reason For Not Reporting The Bill Out. Letter To Congressman Dyer Makes Explanation. Argus Is Praised.

Drafting Anti-Lynch Bill

The Chicago Defender 6/6/24.

No single person deserves more credit for the enactment of the anti-lynching bill which recently passed the Pennsylvania legislature than Mrs. M. Mossell Griffin, shown on the left in this picture, in the act of presenting the bill to Representative Andrew F. Stevens of Philadelphia on steps of the capitol at Harrisburg, Pa. Mrs. Coleman, prominent in civic affairs in the East, is shown on the right.

OHIO'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

LEADS THE COUNTRY IN EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION

Against The Mob and Lynch-Murder—The Work of a Member of The Race—Also His Ohio Civil Rights Law

Our mob-violence or anti-lynching bill was introduced in the Ohio legislature in 1894 and re-introduced in 1896. It took the Hon. Harry C. Smith, editor of The Gazette, just three years to secure its enactment into law. The Ohio Supreme Court has several times upheld the constitutionality of the law and it has been very effective. Illinois, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have followed Ohio's lead and enacted mob violence or anti-lynching laws which are copies of our Ohio law. Several other northern states and at least one border state (Kentucky) have also enacted anti-lynching laws, in recent years, like Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Ohio law follows:

MOBS.

Section
6278. "Mob" and "lynching" defined.
6279. "Serious injury" defined.
6280. Damages in case of assault.
6281. Damages in case of lynching.
6282. Damages recoverable by legal representative of victim of lynching.
6283. Person suffering death or injury by mob trying to lynch another.
6284. Limitations of action.
6285. Order to include recovery and costs in tax levy.
6286. Guardian's custody, etc., fees.
6287. County's right of action against member of mob.
6288. County's right of action against another county.
6289. Non-relief from prosecution.

Section 6278. A collection of people assembled for an unlawful purpose and intending to do damage or injury to any one, or pretending to exercise correctional power over other persons by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed a "mob" for the purpose of this chapter. An act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person shall constitute a "lynching" within the meaning of this chapter. (93 v. 161 2.)

Section 6279. The term "serious injury," for the purpose of this chapter, shall include such injury as permanently or temporarily disables the person receiving it from earning a livelihood by manual labor. (93 v. 161 3.)

Section 6280. A person taken from officers of justice by a mob, and assaulted with whips, clubs, missiles or in any other manner, may recover, as hereafter provided, a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars as damages from the county in which the assault is made. (93 v. 161 4.)

Section 6281. A person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover, from the county in which such assault is made a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by manual labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars. (93 v. 162 5.)

Section 6282. The legal representative of a person dying from injuries received from lynching by a mob, may recover of the county in which such injury occurred, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars damages for such unlawful killing. Such sum shall be applied to the maintenance of the family and education of the minor children of such person so lynched, if any survive him, until such children are of legal age, and then be distributed to the survivors, share and share alike, the widow receiving an amount equal to a child's share. If there be no widow or minor children surviving such decedent, such sum shall be distributed among the next of kin according to the laws of the distribution of the personality of an intestate. Such sum so recovered shall not be a part of the estate of such person so lynched, nor be subject to any of his liabilities. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6283. A person suffering death or injury from a mob attempting to lynch another person shall come within the provisions of this chapter. He or his legal representatives shall have a like right of action as one purposely injured or killed by such a mob. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6284. Action for the recoveries provided for in this chapter must be commenced, within two years from the date of such lynching, in any court having original jurisdiction of an action for damages for malicious assault. (93 v. 162 7.)

Section 6285. An order to the commissioners of a county, against which such recovery is had, to include it with the costs of action, in the next succeeding tax levy for such county, shall be a part of the judgment in every such case. (93 v. 162 8.)

Section 6286. If the decedent so lynched has minor children surviving him, the fund shall be turned over to a regularly appointed guardian. Such guardian shall administer such fund under the direction of the probate judge, allowing not more than five hundred dollars for counsel fees in the action for such recovery. (93 v. 162 9.)

Section 6287. The county, in which a lynching occurs, may recover the amount of a judgment and costs against it in favor of the legal representatives of a person killed or seriously injured by a mob from any of the persons composing such mob. A person present, with hostile intent, at such lynching shall be deemed a member of the mob and be liable to such action. (93 v. 162 10.)

Section 6288. If a mob carries a prisoner into another county, or comes from another county to commit violence on a prisoner brought from such county for safekeeping, the county in which the lynching is committed may recover the amount of the judgment and costs from the county from which the mob came, gence on the part of officials of such unless there was contributory negli-imprisoned not less than thirty days county in failing to protect such prisoner or dispurse such mob. (93 v. 163 11.)

Section 6289. This chapter shall not relieve a person concerned in such lynching from prosecution for homicide or assault for engaging therein. (93 v. 163 12.)

This law has repeatedly been held constitutional and good law by the Ohio Supreme court. The trouble is our people will not use it as often as they should, but expect it to do for them what they should and must do for themselves, under it, in the courts.

Judge Grant's Opinion of the Law.

Misled by the foolishly manufactured outcry for the passage of the Beaty bill, a few years ago, the Akron Beacon Journal published an editorial to which the editor of The Gazette replied, calling its attention to the fact that the Ohio Civil Rights law was good law and did not need amending. The following letter from Judge Grant former presiding judge of the Court of Appeals of the Eighth District of Ohio, is self explanatory:

Akron, O., April 25, 1919.
Hon. Harry C. Smith,
Editor The Gazette, Cleveland, O.

My Dear Sir: Observing your letter in the Beacon-Journal, of this city, I venture to send you, under a separate cover, the Ohio Law Reporter of Feb. 3, last, containing the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the Puritan Lunch Co. vs. Leonard H. Forman, decided in Akron, last Fall, in which a judgment for ($500) five hundred dollars was sustained. If the Beacon-Journal had known what was going on in its own town, there would have been no occasion for criticism editorially. THE LAW OF OHIO IS UNDER NO REPROACH, nor our courts and juries, in administering it. Not a word was said by the Beacon-Journal when the Forman case was reviewed.

Very truly yours,
R. C. Grant.

OUR OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Upon the request of many readers of The Gazette we print below the text of the Hon. Harry C. Smith's Ohio Civil Rights law which the editor had enacted while a member of the 71st General Assembly, in 1894:

The General Code of Ohio:

Sec. 12940. Whoever, being the proprietor or his employee, keeper or manager of an inn, restaurant, eating house, barber-shop, public conveyance by land or water, theater or other place of public accommodation and amusement, denies to a citizen, except for reasons applicable alike to all citizens and regardless of race or color, the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or nor more than ninety days, or both.

Sec. 12941. Whoever violates the next preceding section shall also pay not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county where such offense was committed.

Congress Tackles Anti-Lynching Bill Again

The second session of the Sixty-Eighth Congress, which began Monday and ends on March 4 next, will consider three bills of importance primarily to Negroes. They are the second deficiency appropriation bill, the Dyer anti-lynching bill and the Foster bill to create a Negro industrial commission. They are part of the unfinished business which came over from the last session of Congress.

The second deficiency appropriation bill was passed Tuesday and contains a section appropriating the sum of $[illegible] for the construction and maintenance of a bathing beach and bath house for the colored population of Washington. It also makes available the unexpended balance of the appropriation of $25,000 for this same purpose which was contained in the District of Columbia appropriation acts for the fiscal years of 1923 and 1924.

It is not likely that any action will be taken on either the Dyer anti-lynching bill or the Foster bill to create a Negro industrial commission. This session of Congress is expected to devote its time to the passage of appropriation and supply bills. The Presdient himself has turned thumbs down on general legislation at this session.

Lynchings - 1924
Legislation Relating to.

1652

1652

Dyer, in Letter, Discusses Anti-Lynching Prospect

Also Makes Contribution of $50 to Work of the N. A. A. C. P.

Congressman Leonidas C. Dyer of Missouri, sponsor of the Anti-Lynching Bill bearing his name has renewed his annual subscription of $50 to the work of the N. A. A. C. P. and has written the following letter, in which he touches on the prospects of the Anti-Lynching Bill:

"I want to do the same as I did last year. Hence, I am enclosing a check for $50. The splendid results that you are obtaining should secure for you the help of all good citizens.

"The Anti-Lynching Bill should become a law without delay. The House of Representatives is for it and will pass it any time there is any assurance at all that the Senate will do likewise. President Coolidge is for it and will sign the bill if Congress passes it. Hence, our only difficulty is with the Senate. I think, through your organization, these facts should be given wide publicity, so that the people generally can see for themselves that the failure in this respect is due entirely and absolutely to the United States Senate. The best way is for the Senate to take this matter up themselves, through one of their members introducing an Anti-Lynching Bill. When they have passed it, the House will do likewise again, without any delay at all. The President will then sign it.

"Wishing you and all of your associates a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I am,

"Yours very truly,

(Signed) "L. C. DYER."

The N. A. A. C. P. is already taking steps to procure the introduction in the Senate of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, as recommended in Mr. Dyer's letter.

Mr. Dyer is one of the staunch friends of the N. A. A. C. P., publicly calling attention to its achievements, and giving of his own time and money to further its

Dyer Bill Lynching Legislation 1924

67TH CONGRESS, 1st Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { REPORT No. 452.

ANTILYNCHING BILL.

OCTOBER 31, 1921.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. DYER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 13.]

The Committee on the Judiciary, having had under consideration the bill (H. R. 13) to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of any State the equal protection of the laws, report the same back with the recommendation that the said bill do pass with the following amendment: Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That the phrase "mob or riotous assemblage," when used in this act, shall mean an assemblage composed of five or more persons acting in concert for the purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law as a punishment for or to prevent the commission of some actual or supposed public offense.

SEC. 2. That if any State or governmental subdivision thereof fails, neglects, or refuses to provide and maintain protection to the life of any person within its jurisdiction against a mob or riotous assemblage, such State shall by reason of such failure, neglect, or refusal be deemed to have denied to such person the equal protection of the laws of the State, and to the end that such protection as is guaranteed to the citizens of the United States by its Constitution may be secured it is provided:

SEC. 3. That any State or municipal officer charged with the duty or who possesses the power or authority as such officer to protect the life of any person that may be put to death by any mob or riotous assemblage, or who has any such person in his charge as a prisoner, who fails, neglects, or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to prevent such person from being so put to death, or any State or municipal officer charged with the duty of apprehending or prosecuting any person participating in such mob or riotous assemblage who fails, neglects, or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to perform his duty in apprehending or prosecuting to final judgment under the laws of such State all persons so participating except such, if any, as are or have been held to answer for such participation in any district court of the United States, as herein provided, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by a fine of not exceeding $5,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Any person who participates in a mob or riotous assemblage that takes from the custody or possession of any State or municipal officer any person held by such officer to answer for some actual or supposed public offense and puts such person to death as a punishment for such offense, or any person who participates in any mob or riotous assemblage that obstructs or prevents any State or municipal officer in discharging his duty to apprehend, prosecute, protect, or punish any person suspected of or charged with any public offense and puts such person to death as a punishment for such offense shall be guilty of a felony and on conviction thereof shall be imprisoned for life or for not less than five years.

SEC. 4. That any person who participates in any mob or riotous assemblage by which a person is put to death shall be guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof shall be imprisoned for life or for not less than five years.

SEC. 5. That any county in which a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall forfeit $10,000, which sum may be recovered by an action therefor in the name of the United States against such county for the use of the family, if any, of the person so put to death; if he had no family, then to his dependent parents, if any; otherwise for the use of the United States. Such action should be brought and prosecuted by the district attorney of the United States of the district in which such county is situated in any court of the United States having jurisdiction therein. If such forfeiture is not paid upon recovery of a judgment therefor, such court shall have jurisdiction to enforce payment thereof by levy of execution upon any property of the county, or may compel the levy and collection of a tax therefor, or may otherwise compel payment thereof by mandamus or other appropriate process; and any officer of such county or other person who disobeys or fails to comply with any lawful order of the court in the premises shall be liable to punishment as for contempt and to any other penalty provided by law therefor.

SEC. 6. That in the event that any person so put to death shall have been transported by such mob or riotous assemblage from one county to another county during the time intervening between his capture and putting to death, each county in or through which he was so transported shall be jointly and severally liable to pay the forfeiture herein provided.

In construing and applying this act the District of Columbia shall be deemed a county, as shall also each of the parishes of the State of Louisiana.

SEC. 7. That if any section or provision of this act shall be held by any court to be invalid, the balance of the act shall not for that reason be held invalid.

The prevalence in many States of the spirit which tolerates lynching, accompanied too often with inhuman cruelty, and the inability or unwillingness of the public authorities to punish the persons who are guilty of this crime, threaten very seriously the future peace of the Nation. Not only is lynching a denial of the right secured by law to every man of a fair trial before an established court in case he is charged with crime, not only does it brutalize the communities which suffer it by breeding a spirit of lawlessness and cruelty in the young people who see barbarities unpunished and uncondemned, not only does it terrorize important bodies of our citizens, but it inevitably leads the people whose rights are thus trampled upon to leave the regions where their lives, their families, and their property are in danger, and move to others where they can find peace and protection, thus disturbing the labor situation all over the country. It also blots our fair fame as a Nation, for we can not claim to be civilized until our laws are respected and enforced and our citizens secured against the hideous cruelties of which we are constantly furnishing fresh examples.

The people of the United States suffer justly under the grievous charge that they continue to tolerate mob murder. It is well known that the innocent, equally with the guilty, suffer the cruel inflictions of mob violence. Mobs have even invaded court rooms and prisons to seize and murder prisoners whose punishment had already been fixed. Local and State authorities frequently offer only the feeblest objection to the actions of the mob which is permitted to do its will unchecked. Rarely are the members of a mob sought out and prosecuted even when, undisguised and in full daylight, they have participated in murder, and only in a few isolated cases has any lyncher ever been punished. Patriotic citizens throughout the country feel the shame which lynchings cast upon the Nation. The time has come when the United States can no longer permit the setting at naught of its fundamental law. We can no longer permit open contempt of

the courts and lawful procedure. We can no longer endure the burning of human beings in public in the presence of women and children; we can no longer tolerate the menace to civilization itself which is contained in the spread of the mob spirit.

The Republican Party, which received such a large majority at the last general election, adopted as a part of its platform at Chicago the following:

We urge Congress to con ider the most effective means to end lynching in this country, which continues to be a terrible blot on our American civilization.

President Harding, in his first message to the Congress, on April 12, said:

Congre s ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy.

Ex-President Wilson, on July 26, 1918, issued an appeal to the American people to stop lynchings. He said:

I therefore very earnestly and solemnly beg that the governors of all the States, the law officers of every community, and above all, the men and women of every community in the United States, all who revere America and wish to keep her name without stain or reproach, will cooperate, not passively merely, but actively and watchfully to make an end of this disgraceful evil. It can not live where the community does not countenance it.

Ex-Attorney General Gregory, May 6, 1918, in an address to the American Bar Association, said:

We must set our faces against lawlessness within our own borders. Whatever we may say about the causes for our entering this war, we know that one of the principal reasons was the lawlessness of the German nation—what they have done in Belgium, and in northern France, and what we have reason to know they would do elsewhere. For us to tolerate lynching is to do the same thing that we are condemning in the Germans.

Lynch law is the most cowardly of crimes. Invariably the victim is unarmed, while the men who lynch are armed and large in numbers. It is a deplorable thing under any circumstances, but at this time, above all others, it creates an extremely dangerous condition. I invite your help in meeting it.

These and similar appeals have gone for naught. Lynchings continue. This is evidenced by many lynchings that have taken place this year. It is impossible to get data touching all these outrages. Many lynchings take place and the facts never reach the public. I include a memorandum showing some of the very recent lynchings, to wit:

Lynching, 1921.

Name.	Date.	Place.	Manner of lynching.
1. Jim Roland	Jan. 2	Mitchell County, Ga	Shot.
2. Robert Lewis	Jan. 4	Meridian, Miss	
3. Sam Williams	Jan. 6	Talbotton, Ga	Hanged.
4. William Beard (white)	Jan. 13	Jasper, Ala	Shot.
5. Alfred Williams	Jan. 24	Norlina, N. C	Do.
6. Plummer Bullock	...do	.....do	Do.
7. Henry Lowery	Jan. 26	Nodena, Ark	Burned.
8. George Werner	Feb. 1	Port Allen, La	Hanged.
9. —— ——	Feb. 4	Vicksburg, Miss. (near)	
10. Elijah Jones	Feb. 12	Ocala, Fla	Do.
11. Ben Campbell	Feb. 10	Wauchula, Fla	Do.
12. —— ——	Feb. 12	Odena, Ala	
13. John Eberhardt	Feb. 16	Athens, Ga	Burned.
14. Richard James	Mar. 13	Versailles, Ky	Hanged.
15. William Bowles	Mar. 14	Eagle Lake, Fla	Do.
16. Browning Tuggle	Mar. 15	Hope, Ark	Do.
17. Adolphus Ross	Mar. 19	Water Valley, Miss	Do.
18. Arthur Jennings	Mar. 20	Hattiesburg, Miss	Do.

Lynching, 1921—Continued.

Name.	Date.	Place.	Manner of lynching.
19. Phil Slater	Mar. 22	Monticello, Ark	Hanged.
20. Sandy Thompson	Apr. 4	Langford, Miss	Do.
21. Rachel Moore	Apr. 9	Rankin County, Miss	Do.
22. Tony Williams	Apr. 15	Rodessa, La	Shot.
23. —— ——	Apr. 25	Carriere, Miss. (Picayune)	Hanged.
24. Roy Hammonds	Apr. 29	Bowling Green, Mo	Do.
25. —— —— (white)	Feb. 6	Monroe, La	Burned.
26. Berry Bolling (white)	May 7	Huntsville, Tenn	Hanged.
27. Sam Ballinger	May 8	Starke, Fla	Do.
28. Leroy Smith	May 11	McGhee, Ark	
29. George Marshall	Apr. 15	Lauderdale, Miss	Shot.
30. John Henry Williams	June 18	Moultrie, Ga	Burned.
31. —— ——	do	Enid, Miss	Shot.
32. Herbert Quarles	June 19	McCormick, S. C	Do.
33. Louis Wimberly	June 20	Jackson, Miss	Hanged.
34. "Red" Bilbro	June 29	Madison County, Miss	Do.
35. Casey Jones (white)	July 23	Hattiesburg, Miss	Do.
36. —— ——	Aug. 3	Lawrenceville, Va	Do.
37. Alex. Winn	Aug. 15	Datura, Tex	Hanged (body burned).
38. Walter Smalley	Aug. 16	Augusta, Ga	Do.
39. Will Allen	Aug. 24	Chapin, S. C	
40. William Anderson	Mar. 4	Baker County, Ga	
41. —— ——	Jan. —	—— ——, Ga	Shot.
42. —— ——		—— ——, Ga	Hanged.
43. —— ——		—— ——, Ga	Drowned.
44. —— —— (woman)		—— ——, Ga	Do.
45. Mansfield Butler	Sept. 8	Aiken, S. C	Shot.
46. Charlie Thompson	do	do	Do.
47. Gilman Holmes	Sept. 13	Columbia, La	Hanged (body burned).
48. Ernest Daniels	Sept. 18	Pittsboro, N. C	Hanged.
49. Edward McDowell	Sept. 19	McComb, Miss	
50. Jerome Whitfield	Aug. 14	Jones County, N. C	Do.
51. Ed. Kirkland	Oct. 24	Allendale, S. C	Shot (body burned).
52. Sam Gordon	Oct. 25	Winneboro, La	Hanged.

In the 30 years from 1889 to 1918, 3,224 persons were lynched, of whom 2,522 were Negroes, and of these 50 were women. The North had 219; the West, 156; Alaska and unknown localities, 15; and the South, 2,834, with Georgia leading with 386, and Mississippi following with 373. Yet in Georgia Negroes paid taxes on 1,664,368 acres, and owned property assessed at $47,423,499. Of the colored victims 19 per cent were accused of rape and 9.4 per cent of attacks upon women. In the year 1919, 77 Negroes, 4 whites, and 2 Mexicans were lynched. Ten of the Negroes were ex-soldiers; one was a woman. During 1920 there were 65 persons lynched; 6 were white and 59 were Negroes; 31 were hanged, 15 shot, 8 burned, 2 drowned, 1 flogged to death, and 8, manner unknown; 24 were charged with murder, 2 assault on woman, 15 attack on woman, 3 insulting woman, 1 attempted attack on woman, 1 attack on boy, 1 stabbing man, and 3 assaulting man.

The Congress must provide the means of ending this cowardly crime. It is in punishing those who take part in it or who permit it. Congress has the power to enact this bill into law.

The fourteenth amendment to the Constitution provides that no State "shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws," and further provides that "the Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article." It is well settled by decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States that the denial forbidden is not alone a denial by positive legislation but that "no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

It is thus made the duty of the Congress under the Constitution to enact such laws as may be needful to assure that no State shall

deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. Within the limits of the jurisdiction thus conferred the Congress has the right to exercise its discretion as to what laws or what means can best accomplish the desired end.

In nearly all cases of lynching the person put to death is taken by a mob from the sheriff, marshal, or other police officer of the State, whose failure to defend and protect him denies to him the equal protection of the laws.

In Ex parte Virginia (100 U. S., 339, 346) the Supreme Court in an unanimous opinion by Mr. Justice Strong, speaking of the prohibitions of the fourteenth amendment, says:

> They have reference to actions of the political body denominated a State, by whatever instruments or in whatever modes that action may be taken. A State acts by its legislative, its executive, or its judicial authorities. It can act in no other way. The constitutional provision therefore must mean that no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. Whoever, by virtue of public position under a State government, deprives another of property, life, or liberty, without due process of law, or denies or takes away the equal protection of the laws, violates the constitutional inhibition; and as he acts in the name and for the State, and is clothed with the State's power, his act is that of the State. This must be so, or the constitutional prohibition has no meaning. Then the State has clothed one of its agents with power to annul or to evade it.
>
> But the constitutional amendment was ordained for a purpose. It was to secure equal rights to all persons; and to insure to all persons the enjoyment of such rights, power was given to Congress to enforce its provisions by appropriate legislation. Such legislation must act upon persons, not upon the abstract thing denominated a State, but upon the persons who are the agents of the State in the denial of the rights which were intended to be secured. (See also the very recent cases of Home Telephone Co. *v.* Los Angeles, 227 U. S., 278, 290; Buchanan *v.* Worley, 245 U. S., 60, 77.)

A distinguished southern judge has given this definition:

> By "equal protection of the laws" is meant equal security under them to everyone in his life, his liberty, his property, and in the pursuit of happiness. It not only implies the right of each to resort on the same terms with others to the courts of the country for the security of his person and property, the prevention and redress of wrongs, and the enforcement of contracts, but also his exemption from any greater burdens and charges than such as are equally imposed on all others under like circumstances.

The Supreme Court of the United States says of this provision:

> When the facts shown establish an administration directed so exclusively against a particular class of persons as to warrant and require the conclusion that, whatever may have been the intent of the laws as adopted, they are applied by the public authorities charged with their administration, and thus representing the State itself, with a mind so unequal and oppressive as to amount to a practical denial by the State of that equal protection of the laws which is secured to the petitioners as to all other persons, by the broad and benign provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Though the law itself be fair on its face and impartial in appearance, yet if it is applied and administered by public authority with an evil eye and an unequal hand, so as practically to make unjust and illegal discriminations between persons in similar circumstances material to their rights, the denial of equal justice is still within the prohibition of the Constitution.

In another case the same court said:

> An actual discrimination against a Negro, on account of his race, by officers intrusted with the duty of carrying out the law is as potential in creating a denial of equality of rights as a discrimination made by law.

It is true that Article I, section 8, of the Constitution gave the Congress the power "to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed

in the service of the United States," as well as "to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions," but it was not until long after the adoption of the fourteenth amendment that our courts construed "insurrections" to include mobs and riotous assemblages. Under these two provisions quoted there can be no doubt whatever as to the power of Congress to define and punish the crime of lynching.

One can not conceive a more humiliating or shameful admission to be made by a Government claiming to be a sovereign State than the confession that it is without the power to make good the guaranty in its Constitution that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. It is nevertheless the fact that in almost numberless instances our State Department has so stated in official communications to civilized nations like France, Spain, China, Italy, and Great Britain.

The Congress has appropriated and the Government has paid to other Governments no less a sum than $792,499.39 to compensate the murder by lynching of their citizens by American mobs; and there are now with the Department of State unadjusted claims to a large amount for similar murders of Austrians, Greeks, Japanese, and Italians. Every diplomatic letter sent by our foreign office to another nation with regard to these claims has stated that the Federal Government is impotent to protect strangers within our borders and seeks to lay the blame on the State governments under which the lynchings have occurred. Every such letter admits the dereliction of Congress in not enforcing the guaranties of the fourteenth amendment and adds to the appeal to Congress to delay action no longer in enacting the legislation in contemplation when the fourteenth amendment was adopted in 1868.

This sum of $792,499.39 was paid for less than 100 lives of foreigners taken by mobs. The inquiry is pertinent that if we have paid $800,000 for less than 100 murdered foreigners, how much has the country lost by the murder of 3,307 Americans killed by mobs since 1889?

The bill reported by this committee seeks (1) to prevent lynchings as far as possible; (2) to punish the crime of lynching; and (3) to compel the community in which the crime is committed to make such compensation as is possible.

1. Sections 1 to 5 of the bill are based upon the present law providing for the removal of suits from State to Federal courts in cases where local prejudice is charged (judiciary act, sec. 28; R. S., sec. 647; 36 Stat. L., 1094, which has been the law since 1789), and the analogous provisions for such removal by persons denied civil rights (judiciary act, sec. 31; R. S., sec. 641; which has been the law since 1866).

Both of these acts have been before the Supreme Court of the United States many times and both have been held constitutional. (Chicago, etc., R. Co. *v.* Whitten, 13 Wall., 270; Ex parte Virginia, 100 U. S., 339; Strauder *v.* West Virginia, 100 U. S., 303.)

The second of these acts provides that "when any civil suit or criminal prosecution is commenced in any State court, for any cause whatsoever, against any person who is denied or can not enforce in the judicial tribunals of the State or in the part of the State where such suit or prosecution is pending any right secured to him by any

law providing for the equal civil rights of citizens of the United States or of all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States," the cause may be removed for trial to the Federal court of the district.

In the same way and following the same procedure, sections 1 to 5 provide that:

SECTION 1. Whenever any criminal prosecution shall have been instituted or any warrant of arrest shall have been issued, or any arrest shall have been made, or attempted, with the purpose and intent of criminal prosecution, in any State court, against any person within the jurisdiction of the State, whether he be a citizen of the United States or not, and such person shall appeal, as hereinafter provided, for the protection of the Government of the United States upon the ground that he has reasonable cause to apprehend that he will be denied the equal protection of the laws by the State within whose jurisdiction he is, or by any officer or inhabitant of such State, such person shall be entitled to the protection of the courts and officers of the United States to the end that the protection guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States may be given.

SEC. 2. That any person within the jurisdiction of any State charged with a felony or other crime who shall file with the clerk of the district court of the United States within whose jurisdiction he is his duly verified petition showing (1) that he is charged with, or has been arrested for, the alleged commission of, or participation in, some felonious or criminal act, the nature of which shall be set out in his petition; (2) that he has reason to apprehend that, because of his race, nationality, or religion, which shall be specifically stated in his petition, the petitioner is likely to be denied the equal protection of the laws, either by the courts, the officers of the law, or other inhabitants of the State within whose jurisdiction he is; and (3) that some other person or persons of his race, color, nationality, or religion, within the jurisdiction of such State, charged with an offense similar to that with which the petitioner is charged, have been put to death without trial or brutally assaulted or otherwise maltreated, or have been denied trial by due course of law in the courts of such State upon similar charges, because of the race, color, nationality, or religion of such person or persons, he shall be entitled to and shall receive the protection of all officers of the United States. Upon the filing of such petition with the clerk of such court, it shall be the duty of such clerk to issue forthwith to the marshal a warrant commanding him to bring the body of such petitioner into court for hearing upon such petition.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the marshal upon receipt of such warrant to arrest and detain the petitioner and to protect him from assault or injury; and in case such petitioner is in the custody of any State or municipal officer, sheriff, marshal, constable, bailiff, jailer, warden, policeman, or other officer or person, upon a warrant to hold petitioner for prosecution in any State court for felony or other crime, such marshal shall take such petitioner from such State official, receipting to him for the body of petitioner.

SEC. 4. That when said petitioner shall have been brought into court he shall be entitled to a summary hearing upon his petition, and, in case he has been taken from the custody of any State officer, he shall, in event his petition is not sustained, be surrendered by the marshal to the State officer from whom he had been taken; and if he has not been taken from the custody of any State or municipal or other officer, he shall, in the event his petition is not sustained, be set at liberty, and the costs of the proceeding shall be taxed against him. In case the petition is sustained by the court, the petitioner shall be remanded to the custody of the marshal for protection until petitioner may be tried in the proper district court of the United States upon such indictment, information, or other charge as may have been or may be made or returned against him, and for the purpose of such trial such district court shall have and possess jurisdiction to try and determine any and all proceedings upon indictment or information which may be removed from any State court under this act.

SEC. 5. That the removal of criminal prosecutions provided in this act shall conform in all respects to removals in other cases provided for by sections 31 and 32 of the act entitled "An act to codify, revise, and amend the laws relating to the judiciary," approved March 3, 1911.

These five sections simply extend to one whose life is about to be taken unlawfully the same protection the law now gives to his civil rights. Could anything be more absurd than that the law should safeguard one's civil rights and wholly disregard the protection of his life?

2. Sections 6 and 7 simply increase the penalty now imposed by law upon persons who "knowingly and willfully obstruct, resist, or oppose any officer of the United States or other person duly authorized" in serving any mesne process, warrant, rule, or order, or other legal writ or process of any United States court, or assault, beat, or wound such officer or any person lawfully in his custody, from a maximum fine of $300 to one of $10,000, and from a maximum imprisonment of one year to one of ten years; and provide that in case of the rescue or abduction of any person in custody of a Federal officer and the subsequent killing of the person so taken, all persons engaged in the unlawful taking shall be guilty of murder.

Sections 8 and 9 are as follows:

SEC. 8. That the putting to death within any State of any person within the jurisdiction of the State by a mob or riotous assemblage of three or more persons openly acting in concert, in violation of law and in default of protection of such person by such State or the officers thereof, shall be deemed a denial to such person by such State of the equal protection of the laws and a violation of the peace of the United States and an offense against the same.

SEC. 9. That every person participating in such mob or riotous assemblage by which such person is put to death, as described in the section immediately preceding, shall be guilty of murder and shall be liable to prosecution, and, upon conviction, to punishment therefor, according to law, in any district court of the United States having jurisdiction in the place where such putting to death occurs.

Section 10 extracts from the county in which a person is lynched a penalty of $10,000, recoverable in an action directed to be brought by the district attorney in the name of the United States for the use of the dependent family, if any, and if there be no dependent family, for the use of the United States.

Such provisions are common in State legislation and are justified as to citizens lynched by the fact that the penalty makes it to the interest of every taxpayer of the county to prevent the lynching; and as to foreigners lynched, it is certainly fairer that the county, whose nonenforcement of the laws was responsible for the lynching, should pay for it than that Congress should be compelled to make compensation for a local wrong.

These sections do nothing more than adopt the South Carolina and Ohio laws, imposing a penalty on the county in which the laws against lynching have failed of enforcement; and such laws have been held constitutional in both States by their respective supreme courts, the law of South Carolina in Brown *v.* Orangeburg County (55 S. C., 45; 32 S. E., 764); and the Ohio law in Commissioners *v.* Church (62 Ohio St., 318). The committee can find no stronger argument for this remedy for an admitted evil than in the following words from the opinion of the Supreme Court of South Carolina:

It has been held that statutes making a community liable for damages in cases of lynchings, and giving a right of recovery to the legal representatives of the person lynched, are valid on the ground that the main purpose is to impose a penalty on the community, which is given to the legal representatives not because they have been damaged but because the legislature sees fit thus to dispose of the penalty. Such statutes are salutary, as their effect is to render protection to human life and make communities law-abiding.

Hon. Guy D. Goff, assistant to the Attorney General of the United States appeared before the committee on July 20 with reference to this bill. His statement, in part, is as follows:

This bill seeks to confer upon the Federal courts jurisdiction to enforce the law and maintain the peace of the United States, which is nothing more than the so-called

police power of the United States. You are familiar with that "excursion," if I may so term it, of the Supreme Court into the field of Federal police power. It was first announced in Gibbons *v.* Ogden (9 Wheat., 202), and has found definite application in the so-called white-slave cases. I recall those decisions distinctly because at that time I was engaged as an attorney for the United States in the interpretation and enforcement of the white-slave law. In Gibbons *v.* Ogden supra: Chief Justice Marshall (at p. 202) said: "It is obvious that the Government of the Union in the exercise of its express powers * * * may use means that may also be employed by a State in the exercise of its acknowledged powers." In the case which held the white-slave law constitutional, Hoke against the United States (227 U. S., pp. 308 and 309), the court said:

"While our dual form of Government has its perplexities, State and Nation having different spheres of jurisdiction, we are one people and the powers reserved to the States and those conferred on the Nation are adapted to be exercised, whether independently or concurrently, to promote the general welfare, material and moral.

"The white-slave traffic act is a legal exercise of the power of Congress under the commerce clause of the Constitution and does not abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the States or interfere with the reserved powers of the States, especially those in regard to regulation of immoralities of persons within their several jurisdictions."

In Hoke *v.* United States (227 U. S., 308, 323), speaking expressly of the power of Congress over interstate transportation, it was said "the power is complete in itself, and that Congress, as an incident to it, may adopt not only means necessary but convenient to its exercise, and the means may have the quality of police regulations."

And in Wilson *v.* United States (232 U. S., 563, 567), speaking of the white slave law, which was held constitutional, the court said:

"As has already been decided, it has the quality of a police regulation, although enacted in the exercise of the power to regulate interstate commerce."

In Seven Cases of Eckman's Alterative *v.* United States (239 U. S., 510, 515) it was said:

"Congress is not to be denied the exercise of its constitutional authority over interstate commerce, and its power to adopt not only means necessary but convenient to its exercise, because these means may have the quality of police regulations."

And an even more direct statement to this effect is:

"Congress may establish police regulations as well as the States, confining their operations to the subjects over which it is given control by the Constitution; * * * Gloucester Ferry Co. *v.* Pennsylvania (114 U. S., 196, 215), citing Cooley's Constitutional Limitations, 732."

In other words, when necessary for the proper exertion of its express powers, Congress may use exactly the same means which the State may use for the exertion of its own powers. This is no new doctrine. In Gibbons *v.* Ogden, supra, it was said:

"It is obvious, that the Government of the Union, in the exercise of its express powers, that, for example, of regulating commerce with foreign nations and among the States, may use means that may also be employed by a State, in the exercise of its acknowledged powers; that, for example, of regulating commerce within the State."

And again, in the very recent case, Hamilton *v.* Kentucky Distilleries Co. (251 U. S., 146, 156) (decided December, 1919), involving the constitutionality of the war time prohibition act, Mr. Justice Brandeis, speaking for the court, stated the principle thus:

"That the United States lacks the police power, and that this was reserved to the States by the tenth amendment, is true. But it is none the less true that when the United States exerts any of the powers conferred upon it by the Constitution, no valid objection can be based upon the fact that such exercise may be attended by the same incidents which attend the exercise by a State of its police power, or that it may tend to accomplish a similar purpose."

We had a somewhat hazy comprehension of the police powers of the State and the corresponding rights of the Federal Government. This line of cases holds that there is a Federal police power. Now, if there is a Federal police power, it must be by virtue of some power conferred on the Federal Government by our Constitution. It was conferred in the White Slave cases by the commerce clause. I assume, therefore, in this argument that there is such a Federal police power, a concomitant, as it were, to preserve law and order, and to see that the laws are equally enforced, and to see that no man is denied or deprived of the common right to enjoy life, liberty, and property, and that such rights are conferred upon the Federal Government by the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution.

A case, which has caused some discussion, is the case of James *v.* Bowman, 190 United States, page 127. I refer to this case, first, because it may be cited in contradiction of the underlying principles of the statement I have made. This case involved

the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution. It grew out of an indictment in the State of Kentucky, based upon section 5507 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which sought to punish anyone who attempted to interfere with a person going to or from the polls, or intimidate those who sought to exercise their prerogative to vote as they saw fit. The Supreme Court held that the indictment was improvidently conceived and said that the fifteenth amendment, which reads—

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude"—

was an amendment which prohibited the State but did not reach the individual. Such was the underlying principle which controlled and which differentiates this case from the other cases. Mr. Justice Brewer wrote the opinion and, in addition to holding that the fifteenth amendment was a curb upon the Federal and State Governments, expressly said that it did not in any sense relate to individuals. He recognized the undoubted existence of the police power of the State and, in the last lines of the decision, remarked that the act was unconstitutional because it was too broad in its terms:

"Congress, he concluded, has no power to punish bribery at all elections. The limits of its power are in respect to elections in which the Nation is directly interested, or in which some mandate of the National Constitution is disobeyed, and courts are not at liberty to take a criminal statute, broad and comprehensive in its terms, and in these terms beyond the power of Congress, and change it to fix some particular transaction for which Congress might have legislated, if it had seen fit."

The court recognized the rule with which we are all familiar, that while a statute may be constitutional in some provisions and unconstitutional in others, the courts will hold it constitutional if they can separate, without destroying the purpose of the statute, the unconstitutional from the constitutional; or, if you prefer, that where a statute can not be separated or resolved into its constituent parts without committing judicial legislation, the courts will not, under such circumstances, attempt to hold the statute constitutional, but will declare it unconstitutional and deny the application of a comity rule of the judiciary, which strives to sustain legislation wherever possible. This case, as I say, recognized that where an inhabitant of a State attempted to interfere with the exercise of a general right which did not relate to a Federal election, that he was not guilty of violating this act. But I must draw this conclusion and emphasize it: I do not think the court attempted to decide that if the same acts so attempted under the broad general terms of the law, which the court felt constrained to hold as beyond the authority of Congress, had been attempted or accomplished in a specific general Federal election, that such acts would not have been a violation of the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, obviously a law meeting the facts of such a situation would be constitutional. In Ex parte Virginia, 100 U. S., 339, 346, construing the provisions of the fourteenth amendment, it was said:

"They have reference to actions of the political body denominated a State, by whatever instruments or in whatever modes that action may be taken. A State acts by its legislative, its executive, or its judicial authorities. It can act in no other way. The constitutional provision, therefore, must mean that no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

In view of that interpretation and merely for the purposes of convenience and accuracy, permit me to refer expressly to the amendment:

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Justice Brewer in the Bowman case, referring to the leading case of Ex parte Virginia, supra, gives to the fourteenth amendment, clearly and unequivocally, this interpretation: That no State shall deprive any person—not as a mere abstract entity, but through its legislative, its executive, or its judicial functions—of life, liberty, or property. In other words, the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in so far as it guarantees to the people of this country life, liberty, and property, means that the legislative department of a State shall in no sense encroach upon such common rights; it means that the executive department—that is, any person empowered with the enforcement of legislative acts, be it a governor, sheriff, or police official, acting under the municipal law of a State—shall not deny to any person the rights which the fourteenth amendment pronounces shall be preserved, nor deny to any person the equal protection of the laws of that State.

The learned justice also quotes from the very important case of United States *v.* Cruikshank (92 U. S., 542, 554). He adopts the statement:

"The fourteenth amendment prohibits a State from denying to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws; but this provision does not, any more than the one which precedes it and which we have just considered, add anything to the rights which one citizen has under the Constitution against another. The equality of the rights of citizens is a principle of republicanism. Every republican government is in duty bound to protect all its citizens in the enjoyment of this principle, if within its power. That duty was originally assumed by the States, and it still remains there. The only obligation resting upon the United States is to see that the States do not deny the right."

The State can deny this right through an executive officer as readily as it can through a legislative or a judicial act. If a State, acting through its highest judicial officers, denies this right, there is a direct appeal, if the record has properly raised the point, to the Supreme Court of the United States. If the legislative department denies the right, we know, of course, how the right is preserved and enforced.

The mere fact that the Congress of the United States has never affirmatively, so far as I have been able to find, invaded the field, and by appropriate legislation under this constitutional provision sought to restrain the executive officers of the States from denying this right is no reason why Congress should not now take such appropriate action as will tend to protect their and similar rights. Therefore, without citing additional authorities, I unhesitatingly make this deduction:

Wherever the Constitution has delegated to Congress certain rights and duties, which Congress is permitted or bound to enforce and to carry out, the extent to which Congress may go in thus enforcing rights or fulfilling duties within the limitations prescribed by the Constitution is sufficiently great to permit of the exercise of a Federal police power, and the exercise of this Federal police power is neither repugnant to nor superior to the police power of the State. Each is concurrent with the other. Thus, if in the proper use of its taxing power, or in the constitutional regulation of commerce, or in the establishment of war-time rules, it becomes necessary to resort to measures which partake of the nature of or are, in fact, equivalent and similar to the police regulations of a State, Congress has the right to adopt such measures and to enforce them. How appropriately might the quotation from Gibbons *v.* Ogden be paraphrased to fit any of the express powers of Congress? Is it not a logical step to adopt this principle of constitutional law to the fourteenth amendment as to any other provision? If it be so applied, and if the aforementioned opinion be so paraphrased, is it not correct to say, with the great Chief Justice—

"It is obvious that the Government of the Union, in the exercise of its express powers, that, for example, of providing to all citizens equal protection of its laws, may use means that may also be employed by a State in the exercise of its acknowledged powers."

In a word, it has been definitely established that there is a Federal police power; that Congress can invoke this power within the limits and according to the provisions of constitutional limitations; and that Congress having so invoked the power can enforce it to the fullest extent. If the State, in the mind of Congress, denies this right because all legislation assumes the existence of an evil to be corrected, then Congress, having legislatively determined that fact (and the courts will not consider whether Congress was or was not justified, but will assume because of Congress having passed appropriate legislation that the States have denied the rights in question), obviously, Congress possesses the authority under the fourteenth amendment and under the interpretation which the courts have given it to go forward and say that since the States of this country have denied to many people within their borders because of race and nationality the right to be protected in their property, in their lives, and their liberty, and have also denied them the equal protection of the laws, a necessity exists that not only justifies but compels adequate and appropriate legislation to the end that the people of our several States may enjoy and be secure in those rights which the organic law guarantees them.

We have, as you know, a great many instances where a State takes jurisdiction before the Federal Government and where the Federal Government may have and take concurrent jurisdiction. Those are the cases where the same act is a crime against separate sovereignties. If one government proceeds to punishment before the other, the other, the punishment of the first government is generally pleaded as "an equitable defense" in criminal law to the imposition of a penalty by the other sovereignty, and I think that would be a case presenting possibly the situation you suggest. If congress saw fit to pass a law which came within the meaning, as the courts have defined that meaning, of the fourteenth amendment, that then the courts could not conduct an

inquiry as to whether Congress was justified in deciding what is generally termed a legislative fact. Congress, as we know, can take affirmative action or not upon many questions within its jurisdiction. I recall, as you will, the law relative to bankruptcy. A few years ago we had no national bankruptcy law, merely the State insolvency laws The mere fact that Congress sees fit to decide that the time has come, within the life of this country as a sovereign Nation, to determine in favor of the affirmative exercise of a power which it has permitted to lie dormant is not to be questioned after Congress has so acted. Neither is the existence of the power to be questioned, merely because of congressional inaction, default, or neglect.

The Supreme Court, speaking through Mr. Chief Justice Waite, in the case of the United States against Cruikshank (92 U. S., p. 542), said, addressing himself to a very exhaustive consideration of the fourteenth amendment:

"The fourteenth amendment prohibits a State from depriving any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law."

And from denying to any person within its jurisdiction the whole protection of the laws.

"But this adds nothing to the rights of one citizen as against another. It simply furnishes an additional guaranty against any encroachment by the States upon the fundamental rights which belong to every citizen as a member of society."

The duty of protecting all of its citizens in the enjoyment of rights was originally assumed by the States, and it still remains there. Will you please note this:

"The only obligation resting upon the United States is to see that the States do not deny the right."

My conclusion is this: Must the Congress of this country sit supinely by when it knows that a State, either affirmatively or negatively, is denying that right? If the State omits to give or withholds protection through motives of indifference or inability, is the guaranty performed and the duty of the Federal Government discharged? In a word, is the fourteenth amendment meaningless because of State negativity? I hope not, and I think not. The Congress of the United States clearly is charged under the Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, with the duty of seeing that the States do not neglect this right. Then, if the Congress of the United States decides that the States have, by omission, neglect, incapacity, or local prejudice, if you please, failed to insure and secure to every citizen within those States the full protection of the laws and the right to life, liberty, and property, then does not the obligation arise to protect these rights?

We are all familiar with that state of affairs where if the Congress of the United States—and it has recently decided it—concludes as a matter of fact that a republican form of government does not exist in a State because the State has not the means or the instrumentalities by which such forms of government are recognized and protected, that it, the Congress of the United States, has the right to go into that State and see that a republican form of government is maintained and preserved. It was done only recently, as you know, in the State of West Virginia, and a committee of the Senate of the United States, merely upon a determination of the legislative fact that a republican form of government did not exist there, invaded the State to see whether the State was properly enforcing its laws under its constitution and the Constitution of the United States.

If a State omits affirmatively to legislate upon such questions it has denied this protection by not taking affirmative action; if it takes affirmative action and does not enforce that action, or if it says it will take no action because, within the judgment of the State, no action along those lines should be taken, then I say the Federal Government can say to that particular State, "You have denied negatively," "You have failed to give," "You have defaulted," if I may so phrase it, "to the citizens of these States the protection that the Constitution of the United States, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, says they are entitled to receive." Now, I contend that under the general police power, the Federal Government may go in, and, side by side with the States, as it does in bankruptcy, aid the States in securing the protection which for any reason the local governments can not give.

The Federal Government was given the power to curb the States in these particulars—and the States reserved the correlative right to so "police" its citizens that in maintaining order it would not deprive any person of life, liberty, or property. And if it fails to preserve these rights—and the Congress concludes, that such rights are denied the people and that they are deprived of due process of law—no matter the cause—then are we to be told that these guaranties can not be enforced by appropriate legislation.

Section 5 of the fourteenth amendment says:

"The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article."

This has received special consideration in Logan *v.* United States (144 U. S., 263, 293), where Mr. Justice Gray stated its meaning to be:

"Every right created by arising under or dependent upon the Constitution of the United States may be protected and enforced by Congress by such means and in such manner as Congress, in the exercise of the correlative duty of protection, or of the legislative powers conferred upon it by the Constitution, may, in its discretion, deem most eligible and best adapted to attain its object."

There is a limitation, however, in the amendment itself upon the power of Congress. The clause of the amendment under consideration provides that Congress may enforce the provisions of the amendment by "appropriate legislation," and the right to judge what is appropriate legislation rests with the lawmaking body of the Government—that is, with Congress.

Mr. Justice Lamar, in United States *v.* Sanges, said:

"The provision of the fourteenth amendment authorizing Congress to enforce its guaranties by legislation means such legislation as is necessary to control and counteract State abridgment."

The Supreme Court of the United States has held that Congress would have no right to provide for the enforcement of the provisions of this amendment in the following cases:

"When the State has been guilty of no violation of its provisions; when it has not made or enforced any law abridging the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; when no one of its departments has deprived any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law or denied to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws: when, on the contrary, the laws of the State as enacted by its legislative and construed by its judicial and administered by its executive departments recognize and protect the rights of all persons the amendment imposes no duty and confers no power upon Congress."

But by implication when a State has been guilty of violating any of the above provisions then Congress may provide for the enforcement of the provisions of the amendment.

In Ex parte Virginia, supra, Mr. Justice Strong stated the rule to be:

"Congress is authorized to enforce the prohibitions by appropriate legislation. Some legislation is contemplated to make the amendments fully effective. Whatever legislation is appropriate—that is, adapted to carry out the objects the amendments have in view—whatever tends to enforce submission to the prohibitions they contain, and to secure to all persons the enjoyment of perfect equality of civil rights and equal protection of the laws against State denial or invasion, if not prohibited, is brought within the domain of congressional power."

In McCray *v.* United States (195 U. S., 27), the authorities are reviewed and reference is especially made to ex parte McCardle (7 Wallace, 506), where the court said:

"We are not at liberty to inquire into the motives of the legislature. We can only examine into its power under the Constitution; and the power to make exceptions to the appellate jurisdiction of this court is given by express words."

The courts have no right to question the expediency or the reasonableness of legislation. In Treat *v.* White (181 U. S., 264), the court said:

"The power of Congress in this direction is unlimited. It does not come within the province of this court to consider why agreements to sell shall be subject to the stamp duty, and agreements to buy not. It is enough that Congress, in this legislation, has imposed a stamp duty upon this one, and not upon the other."

When Congress determines upon the question what its legislative judgment should be, that Congress takes into consideration not the facts which exist in some one State, to the exclusion of facts existing in another State, but that Congress takes into consideration what is the greatest good for the greatest number.

Congress must be charged sometimes with altruism when it legislates upon any great question; Congress must not be charged with having taken into consideration conditions in one State to the exclusion of conditions in another, because if it did it would be guilty of penalizing a State where, possibly, the legislation would not affect the individuals of that State, for the benefit of the greater number of the people of the United States.

The words "necessary and proper" have been held as endowing the Federal Government with every authority the exercise of which may in any way assist the Federal Government in effecting any of the purposes the attainment of which is within its constitutional sphere. In United States *v.* Fisher (2 Cranch, 358), decided in 1804, Chief Justice Marshall declared:

"It would be incorrect and would produce endless difficulties if the opinion should be maintained that no law was authorized which was not indispensably necessary to give effect to a specified power. Where various systems might be adopted for that

purpose, it might be said with respect to each that it was not necessary because the end might be obtained by other means. Congress might possess the choice of means which are in fact conducive to the exercise of a power granted by the Constitution."

Take the condition that exists in this country to-day. There is not a State—of course, this is a mere truism—that has not a law against murder. Now, in the act which bears the name of your distinguished chairman there are provisions which confer jurisdiction upon the Federal Government to prosecute assaults upon officers engaged in the enforcement of that act. There is a question in the minds of many people whether or not that act should not have conferred upon the Federal Government the right to prosecute cases of murder. It does concede the right to prosecute assaults. Now, I have in mind a case where men living in a certain State shot down, as they claimed in self-defense, the officers of the law who came to search their premises for intoxicating liquor. These men have been tried twice for murder in the State court and the juries have disagreed. The law has not been popular in that State. Now, suppose the condition which exists in the State to which I refer were found to exist in other States of the Union. It is only an easy step to the psychology of our people. We know that the way the people of one State of this Union view a given state of facts is likely to be the view entertained in other sections of the country, unless you should give the facts a political coloring, which this act does not because it would be based upon the Constitution, and apply to all—red, white, and black—citizen, alien, resident, and inhabitant. Now, in view of the general knowledge of the so-called unpopularity everywhere of this law, Congress could pass a law conferring upon the Federal courts the right to punish murder wherever officers enforcing that law were assaulted and killed.

If Congress did that, who could question the judgment of Congress? I do not see who could run "along the highway" and say Congress was not justified in doing this because in the New England States or in the Southern States they do not shoot down men so engaged. I do not think we should or that we could make it in any sense a sectional question, because we are all the same people; we all entertain the same views of life in the final, ultimate analysis. Our late World War demonstrated that. We forgot our politics; we were American citizens for the once, and we forgot that we had ever been Democrats and Republicans. We met the same situation in the same way. There may be differences depending upon temperament or environment, because after all we are initially the products of the conditions that started us, brought us up and pushed us forward in this great fight in life, but when all of that is ironed out we are the same. So I say, that when you find conditions existing in one State you can conclude legislatively as well as actually that if the same "cause irritant" makes its appearance in the other State you will find the same conditions in its train.

The fact that such acts carried a penalty might in their deterrent effect prevent just such crimes. If a mob, in definace of law, destroys property or commits arson, is the taxpayer without remedy, because the authorities were ignorant?

In Crandall *v.* Nevada (6 Wallace, 35) the court discusses and classifies some of the distinctively Federal rights. It is said to be the right of the citizen, protected by implied guaranties of the Constitution, "to come to the seat of government to assert any claim he may have upon the Government, to transact any business he may have with it, to seek its protection, to share its offices, to engage in administering its functions. He has the right of free access to its seaports, through which all operations of foreign countries are conducted, to the subtreasuries, land offices, and courts of justice in the several States."

And in the Slaughter-house Cases (16 Wallace, 36, 79) it is said:

"Another privilege of a citizen of the United States is to demand the care and protection of the Federal Government over his life, liberty, and property when on the high seas or within the jurisdiction of a foreign Government. Of this there can be no doubt, nor that the right depends upon his character as a citizen of the United States. The right to peacefully assemble and petition for redress of grievances, the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, are rights of the citizen guaranteed by the Federal Constitution. The right to use the navigable waters of the United States, however they may penetrate the territory of the several States, all rights secured to our citizens by treaties with foreign nations, are dependent upon citizenship of the United States, and not citizenship of a State. One of these privileges is conferred by the very article under consideration. It is said that a citizen of the United States can, of his own volition, become a citizen of any State of the Union by a bona fide residence therein, with the same rights as other citizens of that State."

In Maxwell *v.* Dow (176 U. S., 581) the court in its majority opinion announced that the mere fact that a certain privilege was granted against Federal infringement did not operate to make such privileges distinctively Federal in character. In that case Justice Harlan delivered one of his famous dissenting opinions based upon the

proposition that the privileges and immunities enumerated in the first eight amendments of the Constitution belong to every citizen of the United States. However, in the course of the majority opinion delivered by Mr. Justice Peckham the language of the court In re Kemmler (136 U. S., 436, 448) was repeated and approved. It will be observed that the decision turns upon the question whether the trial of a person accused as a criminal by a jury of only 8 persons instead of 12 was an encroachment by the State upon those fundamental rights inhering in citizenship and which the State governments were created to secure. The court said:

"The fourteenth amendment did not radically change the whole theory of the relations of the State and Federal Governments to each other, and of both Governments to the people. The same person may be at the same time a citizen of the United States and a citizen of a State. Protection to life, liberty, and property rests primarily with the States, and the amendment furnishes an additional guaranty against any encroachment by the States upon those fundamental rights which belong to citizenship and which the State governments were created to secure. The privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States, as distinguished from the privileges and immunities of citizens of the States, are indeed protected by it; but those are privileges and immunities arising out of the nature and essential character of the National Government and granted or secured by the Constitution of the United States."

Obviously, if the State by direct legislation abridged any of these rights, the act would encroach on the privileges protected. The State would then positively violate the Federal provisions. But does the State not violate and render meaningless the provisions of the amendment by neglecting to legislate, refusing to enforce its laws, or by allowing its laws and its officials to drift into a condition of utter helplessness and indifference? Are "citizens" and "persons" to be thus deprived of life, liberty, and property when the people of the States have clothed the Federal Government with power to see that they, the States, do not deny such rights, and have expressly empowered the Congress and directed it "to enforce" such commands by appropriate legislation?

We quote some additional authorities as to the constitutionality of the antilynching bill submitted by Hon. Merrill Moores.

The case of James *v.* Bowman (190 U. S., 127) is not in point as to the proposed antilynching bill, for the reason, in addition to those stated by Col. Goff, that it concerns a statute based solely on the fifteenth amendment, while the proposed bill is based on the fourteenth amendment, which is totally different in its provisions.

The fourteenth amendment guarantees that no State "shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws," a guaranty equivalent to one that each State shall secure to every person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

The fifteenth amendment is as follows:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." To enforce this provision Congress enacted Revised Statutes 5507, to punish "every person who prevents, hinders, controls, or intimidates another from exercising or in exercising the right of suffrage, to whom that right is guaranteed by the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, by bribery or threats," etc.

Certain men were indicted under this statute for bribing colored voters of Kentucky not to vote at a congressional election. The court held that under the amendment providing that the right of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, color, etc., the Congress could not pass a statute punishing election bribery of Negroes. It is hardly worth while discussing the propriety of this decision, in view of the fact that it has no bearing at all on the questions at issue.

The fourteenth amendment forbids the withholding of the equal protection of the law by any State to any person within its jurisdiction. This bill simply provides that the State governments shall treat all persons within their jurisdiction alike in discharging the highest function of government, the protection of life and liberty of the governed.

The first principle stated in the Declaration of Independence is as follows:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

In framing the Constitution, our fathers, recognizing that governments are instituted among men to secure the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, stated in

the preamble its purpose to be to form a perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

With these principles as their purpose, all the State governments were established and the principles are restated in every State constitution.

The fourteenth amendment is simply declaratory of the principle that a State in which life, liberty, and property are not protected for every person within its boundary does not perform the first and greatest function of government—the protection of the personal rights of the governed. It is for this purpose that all State officers are chosen and paid. It is for this that taxes are collected and the States policed.

It goes without saying that in a civilized government like ours if any person is assaulted, beaten, maimed, or lynched by a mob, some officer whose sworn duty it is to enforce the laws has been derelict in his duty and has violated his official oath. The often-quoted words of Mr. Justice Matthews in the Yick Wo case are in point as to the moral liability of the State for the dereliction of its officer:

"Whatever may have been the intent of the ordinances as adopted, they are applied by the public authorities charged with their administration and thus representing the State itself, with a mind so unequal and oppressive as to amount to a practical denial by the State of that equal protection of the laws which is secured to the petitioners, as to all other persons, by the broad and benign provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Though the law itself be fair on its face and impartial in appearance, yet if it is applied and administered by public authority with an evil eye and an unequal hand so as to make unjust and illegal discriminations between persons in similar circumstances, material to their rights, the denial of equal justice is still within the prohibition of the Constitution." (Yick Wo *v.* Hopkins, 118 U. S., 356, 373.)

This language has been quoted with approval by the same court in construing a cigarette law of Tennessee unequally enforced. (Austin *v.* Tennessee, 179 U. S., 343, 350.)

It has also been followed in its reasoning in the Los Angeles Gas Works case. (Dobbins *v.* Los Angeles, 195 U. S., 223, 240.)

It was again quoted and followed in the Wisconsin Salvation Army case. (Re Garrabad, 84 Wis., 592–3; 36 Amer. St., 952, 953; 19 L. R. A. 858, 864.)

It was followed again in the trial of Caleb Powers, where in a community almost equally divided in politics, Powers being on trial on a charge of the murder of a political opponent, no member of the political party with which Powers was identified was drawn on the jury in three successive trials. (Commonwealth *v.* Powers, 139 Fed. 452, 461. See also in re Orozco, 201 Fed. 106, 117.)

The Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly stated that the last clause of the first section of the fourteenth amendment guarantees the equal protection of the laws by the States to all persons within their jurisdiction. The common definition of a guaranty is "an agreement by one person to answer to another for the debt, default, or miscarriage of another." Mr. Justice Story thus defined it:

"A guaranty is the collateral undertaking by one person to be answerable for the payment of some debt or the performance of some duty or contract for another person, who stands first bound to pay or perform." (2 Story, Contracts, 5th ed., 319.)

Under the Constitution the States, by ratifying the fourteenth amendment, have bound themselves to perform and discharge the duty of affording to all persons within their respective boundaries the equal protection of the laws, and the Federal Government has guaranteed the performance. The duty to perform is a positive, affirmative duty of equal protection. Wherever this duty is not performed, regardless of the excuse, there is a breach by the State of the contract, and the obligation falls on the guarantor, the Federal Government to assure performance.

The Supreme Court has laid down the rule of construction as to guaranties that "the words of the guaranty are to be taken as strongly against him (the guarantor) as the sense will admit." (Drummond *v.* Prestman, 12 Wheat., 515, 518.) If this is the rule as to the guarantor, it goes without saying that it is also binding on the principal debtor.

The general rule as to the liability of private corporations for torts committed by agents within the scope of their authority (briefly and well stated in 10 Cyc., 1205, 1222) certainly furnishes an analogy where a constitutional guaranty had been given by State and Nation for performance by the State. As to cases in point there is a paucity of authority, due to the fact that neither State nor Nation may be sued without its consent. There are, however, cases fully in point.

The State of New York, having constructed or acquired certain canals, consented to be sued as to claims "for damages sustained from the canals, from their use and

management, or arising from the neglect of an officer in charge, or from any accident or other matter connected therewith," excluding however, "claims arising from damages resulting from the navigation of the canals." In Rexford *v.* State (105 N. Y. 229), Rexford, while navigating a canal boat on the Erie Canal, left his boat at Syracuse to obtain a clearance, and, returning to his boat, was severly injured by the fact that the agents of the State had negligently permitted a ladder to become unsafe. The court held the State liable for the negligence of the officers charged with the duty of keeping the canal and its appurtenances in order.

For a stronger case in point, see Gibney *v.* State (137 N. Y., 1; 19 L. R. A., 365). See also as to the liability of a State for the negligence of an officer or agent; Green *v.* State (73 Calif., 29); Chapman *v.* State (104 Calif., 690; 43 Amer. St., 158); note to Houston *v.* State (42 L. R. A., 65–69); 36 Cyc., 882 n. 16.

These cases are all to the effect that where a State consents to be sued in tort it becomes liable as a private corporation for the negligence of an officer or agent as to acts within the line of his duties.

As to the right of the United States to sue a State or a county there can be no question. (United States *v.* North Carolina, 136 U. S., 211; United States *v.* Texas, 143 U. S., 621; United States *v.* Michigan, 190 U. S., 379; Lincoln County *v.* Luning, 133 U. S., 529.)

Originally a State might be sued by a citizen of another State. (Chisholm *v.* Georgia, 2 Dall., 419.)

This decision led to the adoption of the eleventh amendment, which provides:

"The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another State, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign State."

It will be noted that this amendment takes away the right neither of the United States nor of any other State to sue a State, but simply restricts the rights of citizens of other States to bring suits.

As to the constitutionality of statutes imposing a penalty upon counties or municipalities for lynching or mob violence, the following additional authorities are submitted: Dale County *v.* Gunter (46 Ala., 111); De Kalb *v.* Smith (47 Ala., 407); Cantey *v.* Clarendon County (101 S. C., 141); Atchison *v.* Twine (9 Kans., 350); Cherryvale *v.* Hawman (80 Kans., 170; 23 L. R. A. (N. S.), 645); P., C., C. & St. L. Ry. Co. *v.* Chicago (242 Ill., 178; 44 L. R. A. (N. S.), 358); 11 Cyc., 500, 501.

To summarize the argument it would appear that the United States, by the joint action of the States, has guaranteed that no State shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

It further appears that every State maintains a system of policing the State for the protection of life, liberty, and property, and that in certain of the States the equal protection of the law is, and for years has been, denied. There can be no question that the denial to persons of a class of the equal protection of the laws, by officers of or under the State charged with their equal enforcement, is the act of the State, and that the failure of the State, through its officers, to give the equal protection of its laws to a class must justify the intervention of the United States under the fourteenth amendment to carry out its guaranty of equal protection.

In bringing this brief reference to authorities to a conclusion it is proper again to refer to two propositions of law laid down by the Supreme Court as to constitutional questions, the first-quoted being in the words of Mr. Justice Bradley and the second in those of Mr. Chief Justice Marshall:

"We hold it to be an incontrovertible principle that the Government of the United States may by means of physical force, exercised through its official agents, execute on every foot of American soil the powers and functions that belong to it." (Ex parte Siebold, 100 U. S., 371, 395.)

"Let the end be legitimate, let it be within the scope of the Constitution, and all means which are appropriate, which are plainly adapted to that end, which are not prohibited but consistent with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, are constitutional." (McCullough *v.* Maryland, 4 Wheat., 316, 421.)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
Washington, D. C., August 9, 1921.

Hon. A. J. VOLSTEAD,
Chairman Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. VOLSTEAD: I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, transmitting a copy of House resolution 13, to secure to persons within the

jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws and to punish the crime of lynching, and inviting suggestions and recommendations with a view to making the bill more effective or to avoid possible constitutional objections.

While under the statutes governing my office I am not authorized to give an official opinion to your committee relative to the bill, my interest in securing to persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws, especially with reference to lynching, is so great that I feel warranted in submitting to you as my personal and not official opinion certain thoughts which have occurred to me as the result of a somewhat hasty examination of the bill.

As pointed out by Col. Goff in his statement before your committee, the first seven sections, providing for the removal of cases under certain conditions to the Federal courts, and providing for the punishment of persons obstructing or resisting officers of the United States, are in effect but elaborations of existing law. They appear to be well drafted and within the competency of Congress to enact.

Considerable discussion has taken place as to the constitutionality of the proposed legislation, it being contended that the fourteenth amendment gave Congress power to legislate so as to prevent a denial of the equal protection of the laws by the States and not as to acts of individuals not clothed with State authority. In support of this proposition the following cases have been cited: United States *v.* Cruikshank (92 U. S., 542); Virginia *v.* Rives (100 U. S., 313); Ex Parte Virginia (100 U. S., 339); Civil Rights Cases (109 U. S., 3); United States *v.* Harris (106 U. S., 629); James *v.* Bowman (190 U. S., 127); Hodges *v.* United States (203 U. S., 1); United States *v.* Wheeler (254 U. S., 281).

Col. Goff has very thoroughly gone over this question in his statement before your committee, and I heartily concur in the views he there expressed. It will be observed that in the cases above cited the court holds that the State may act through its legislative, its judicial, or its executive authorities, and the act of any one of these is the act of the State. This is concisely set forth in the opinion of the court in Ex Parte Virginia (100 U. S., 339, at 346):

"We have said the prohibitions of the fourteenth amendment are addressed to the States. They are, 'No State shall make or enforce a law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, * * * nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.' They have reference to actions of the political body denominated a State, by whatever instruments or in whatever modes that action may be taken. A State acts by its legislative, its executive, or its judicial authorities. It can act in no other way. The constitutional provision, therefore, must mean that no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. Whoever, by virtue of public position under a State government, deprives another of property, life, or liberty without due process of law, or denies or takes away the equal protection of the laws, violates the constitutional inhibition, and as he acts in the name and for the State and is clothed with the State's power his act is that of the State. This must be so or the constitutional prohibition has no meaning. Then the State has clothed one of its agents with power to annul or to evade it."

Of course if the act of one of these agencies of the State is a denial of the equal protection of the laws, since the act of such agent is the act of the State itself, such act is within the prohibitions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution. The authorities above cited hold that a statute that prohibits the act of an individual, irrespective of any action by the State or its officers, is beyond the power of Congress to enact under this fourteenth amendment. To my mind there can be no doubt that negativity on the part of the State may be, as well as any act of a positive nature by such State, a denial of the equal protection of the laws and thus be within the prohibition of the fourteenth amendment so as to give Congress power to act with reference to it. That such was in the mind of the court when pronouncing the decisions above cited is clearly shown by the following excerpts from the opinion of the court, speaking through Mr. Justice Bradley in the Civil Rights cases, supra, at pages 13 and 14:

"In fine, the legislation which Congress is authorized to adopt in this behalf is not general legislation upon the rights of the citizen but corrective legislation; that is, such as may be necessary and proper for counteracting such laws as the States may adopt or enforce, and which, by the amendment, they are prohibited from making or enforcing, or such acts and proceedings as the States may commit or take, and which, by the amendment, they are prohibited from committing or taking. It is not necessary for us to state, if we could, what legislation would be proper for Congress to adopt. It is sufficient for us to examine whether the law in question is of that character.

"An inspection of the law shows that it makes no reference whatever to any supposed or apprehended violation of the fourteenth amendment on the part of the States. It is not predicated on any such view. It proceeds ex directo to declare that certain acts committed by individuals shall be deemed offenses and shall be prosecuted and punished by proceedings in the courts of the United States. It does not profess to be corrective of any constitutional wrong committed by the States; it does not make its operation to depend upon any such wrong committed. It applies equally to cases arising in States which have justest laws respecting the personal rights of citizens, and whose authorities are ever ready to enforce such laws, as to those which arise in States that may have violated the prohibition of the amendment. In other words, it steps into the domain of local jurisprudence and lays down rules for the conduct of individuals in society toward each other, and imposes sanctions for the enforcement of those rules, without referring in any manner to any supposed action of the State or its authorities."

And again, at page 23:

"Many wrongs may be obnoxious to the prohibitions of the fourteenth amendment which are not, in any just sense, incidents or elements of slavery. Such, for example, would be the taking of private property without due process of law; or allowing persons who have committed certain crimes (horse stealing, for example) to be seized and hung by the posse comitatus without regular trial: or denying to any person or class of persons the right to pursue any peaceful avocations allowed to others."

My examination of the proposed legislation causes me to believe that all of its provisions are predicated upon some action—either negative or positive—upon the part of the States and that therefore the same is wholly within the competency of Congress to enact.

Section 10 imposes a penalty upon every county in which an unlawful killing occurs, and section 11 imposes a like penalty on every county through which the victim may be carried before being put to death. While the question whether the United States may penalize an instrumentality of a political subdivision of a State may cause some doubt, it is at least an open one so far as the decisions of the Supreme Court are concerned. There has been conferred on Congress the power by appropriate legislation to enforce the prohibitions of the fourteenth amendment and the imposition of penalties is a well-established means of enforcing the laws, and is so recognized by numerous decisions of all courts and is no doubt an appropriate method of so enforcing the law. This being true and the States having consented by their adoption of the provisions of the Constitution and its amendments to such enforcement of the law by the Federal Government, it would seem there could be but little question of the power of Congress to provide for such penalties.

Section 12 and section 13 provide for the punishment of State and municipal officers who fail in their duty to prevent lynchings or who suffer persons accused of crime to be taken from their custody for the purpose of lynching. These sections seem to me to strike at the heart of the evil, namely, the failure of State officers to perform their duty in such cases. The fourteenth amendment recognizes as preexisting the right to due process of law and to the equal protection of the law and guarantees against State infringement of those rights. A State officer charged with the protection of those rights who fails or refuses to do all in his power to protect an accused person against mob action denies to such person due process of law and the equal protection of the laws in every sense of the term. The right of Congress to do this is fully sustained by the decision of the court in Ex Parte Virginia, supra. (See pp. 346, 347.)

Section 15, providing for the punishment of unlawful acts committed against citizens or a subject of a foreign country, meets a long-standing need which has been expressed by a number of Presidents. In Missouri *v.* Holland (252 U. S., 416) the court has upheld the power of Congress to enact laws necessary and appropriate to the effectuating of treaties.

I am, in a separate letter, to which is attached a copy of the proposed bill, calling attention to some slight modifications that I am taking the liberty to suggest, most of them being directed to matters of clarity in such proposed legislation.

Yours, very truly,

H. M. DAUGHERTY, *Attorney General.*

VIEWS OF THE MINORITY.

This bill, in the judgment of the minority, is without constitutional warrant. It is definitely and directly antagonistic to the philosophy of our system of government, and within the limit of its effectiveness, if it should be held constitutional, would be destructive of that system.

If enacted and operative it would not add to the protection of person or the general efficiency of government, or strengthen the relationship between the Federal Government and the States. On the contrary, this proposed intervention of the Federal Government directed against local power, supplanting and superseding the sovereignty of the States, would tend to destroy that sense of local responsibility for the protection of person and property and the administration of justice, from which sense of local responsibility alone protection and governmental efficiency can be secured among free peoples.

This bill, challenging as it does the relative governmental efficiency of the States and the integrity of purpose of their governmental agencies, placing the Federal Government, as it does, in the attitude of an arbitrary dictator assuming coercive powers over the States, their officers, and their citizens in matters of local police control, would do incomparable injury to the spirit of mutual respect and trustful cooperation between the Federal Government and the States essential to the efficiency of government.

As a precedent, this bill, establishing the principles which it embodies and the congressional powers which it assumes to obtain, would strip the States of every element of sovereign power, control, and final responsibility for the personal and property protection of its citizens, and would all but complete the reduction of the States to a condition of governmental vassalage awaiting only the full exercise of the congressional powers established.

HATTON W. SUMNERS.
ANDREW J. MONTAGUE.
JAMES W. WISE.
JOHN N. TILLMAN.
FRED H. DOMINICK.

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LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FILE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 837 Session of 1923.

MR. A. F. STEVENS, IN PLACE, MARCH 19, 1923.

MR. BLUETT, JUDICIARY GENERAL, APRIL 10, 1923.

AS AMENDED ON THIRD READING IN SENATE, MAY 1, 1923.

Strike out in [ ] Insert in *Italics*

AN ACT

To assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every county the equal protection of the laws by providing for their removal from the county and their trial in certain criminal cases by *a court of quarter sessions of the peace or oyer and terminer of another county* [the Superior Court] imposing penalties upon the counties and officers thereof for failure to provide proper protection and upon individuals for interfering with or obstructing the carrying out of the provisions of this act [giving the Superior Court jurisdiction in all prosecutions arising out of this act] *and imposing certain duties upon the Superior Court*

Section 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same* That whenever any criminal prosecution shall have been insti-

tuted or any warrant of arrest shall have been issued or any arrest shall have been made or attempted with the purpose and intent of criminal prosecution in the courts of any county against any person within the jurisdiction of the county whether he be a citizen of the United States or not and such person shall appeal as hereinafter provided for protection of the government upon the ground that he has reasonable cause to apprehend that he will be denied the equal protection of the laws by the county within whose jurisdiction he is or by any officer or inhabitant of such county such person shall be entitled to the protection of the courts and officers of the State to the end that the protection guaranteed by the Constitution of this State may be given

Section 2 That any person within the jurisdiction of any county charged with a felony or other crime who shall file with the prothonotary of the Superior Court of this Commonwealth a duly verified petition showing (1) that he is charged with or has been arrested for the alleged commission of or participation in some felonious or criminal act the nature of which shall be set out in his petition (2) that he has reason to apprehend that because of his race nationality or religion which shall be specifically stated in his petition the petitioner is likely to be denied the equal protection of the laws either by the courts the officers of the law or other inhabitants of the county within whose jurisdiction he is and (3) that some other person or persons of

DIVISION OF
TUSKEGEE INSTIT

his race color nationality or religion within the jurisdiction of such county charged with an offense similar to that with which the petitioner is charged have been put to death without trial or brutally assaulted or otherwise maltreated or have been denied trial by due course of law in the courts of such county upon similar charges because of the race color nationality or religion of such person or persons he shall be entitled to and shall receive the protection of all officers of the Commonwealth The duly verified petition above described may be verified and filed either by the person in jeopardy as above described or by another person in his behalf Upon the filing of such petition with the prothonotary of such court it shall be the duty of such prothonotary to issue forthwith to a member of the State Police a warrant commanding him to bring the body of such petitioner into court for hearing upon such petition

Section 3 That it shall be the duty of such State Policeman upon receipt of such warrant to arrest and detain the petitioner and to protect him from assault or injury and in case such petitioner is in the custody of any officer or person upon a warrant to hold petitioner for prosecution in any county court for felony or other crime such State Policeman shall take such petitioner from such official receipting to him for the body of the petitioner

Section 4 That when said petitioner shall have been brought into [court] *said Superior Court* he shall be entitled to a summary hearing upon his petition *before one*

of the judges thereof and in case he has been taken from the custody of any officer he shall in event his petition is not sustained be surrendered by the State Policeman to the officer from whom he had been taken and if he has not been taken from the custody of any officer he shall in the event his petition is not sustained be set at liberty and the costs of the proceedings shall be taxed against him in case the petition is sustained by the court the petitioner shall be remanded to the custody of the Superintendent of State Police for protection *or committed to a proper penal institution* until petitioner may be tried in *a court of quarter sessions of the peace or oyer and terminer of some other county to be selected by* the Superior Court upon such indictment information or other charge as may have been or may be made or returned against him and for the purpose of such trial such court *so selected* shall have and possess jurisdiction to try and determine any and all proceedings upon indictment or information which may be removed from any *other* county court under this act

Section 5 Whoever shall knowingly and wilfully obstruct resist or oppose any officer of the Commonwealth or other person duly authorized in serving or attempting to serve or execute the warrant herein provided for or shall assault beat or wound any officer or other person duly authorized to serve the same knowing or having reason to believe him to be such officer or other person so duly authorized or any person lawfully in the custody

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of such officer or other person so duly authorized in serving or executing any such warrant shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars and imprisonment not more than ten years

Section 6 Whoever shall rescue or attempt to rescue take or abduct from the custody of any officer or person lawfully assisting him any person taken upon a warrant under the provisions of this act or shall directly or indirectly aid abet or assist any person so arrested to escape or to be taken or abducted from the custody of such officer or other person or shall harbor or conceal any person for whose arrest such a warrant has been issued so as to prevent his discovery and arrest after notice or knowledge of the fact that a warrant or process has been issued for the apprehension of such person shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both and in case the taking or rescue of any such person in custody as aforesaid shall be followed by the killing of the person so taken from custody all persons engaged in such taking or abduction or killing or in any way contributing thereto shall be guilty of murder [and any such person may be indicted for murder and tried in the Superior Court]

Section 7 That the putting to death within any county of any person within the jurisdiction of the county by mob or riotous assemblage of three or more persons openly acting in concert in violation of law and in

default of protection of such person by such county or the officers thereof shall be deemed a denial to such person by such county of the equal protection of the laws and a violation of the peace of the Commonwealth and an offense against the same

Section 8 That every person participating in such mob or riotous assemblage by *which* such person is put to death as described in the section immediately preceding shall be guilty of murder [and shall be liable to prosecution and upon conviction to punishment thereof according to law in the Superior Court]

Section 9 That every county in which such unlawful putting to death occurs shall be subject to a forfeiture of ten thousand dollars which may be recovered by action therefor in the name of the Commonwealth against such county for the use of the dependent family if any of the person so put to death and if none for the use of the Commonwealth which action shall be brought and prosecuted by the Attorney General *in a court of common pleas of any county within the Commonwealth other than the county in which such unlawful putting to death occurred* If such forfeiture is not paid upon recovery of judgment therefor the [Superior] Court *in which said judgment was recovered* shall have jurisdiction to enforce payment thereof by extent of levy of execution upon any property of the county or may compel the levy and collection of a tax therefor or otherwise compel payment thereof, by mandamus or other appropriate process and every officer of such county and every other person who disobeys or fails to

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comply with any lawful order of the court in the premises shall be liable to punishment according to law as for contempt and to any other penalty provided by law therefor

Section 10 That in the event any person so put to death who shall have been taken from an officer in one county by a mob or riotous assemblage of three or more persons shall have been taken in one county and transported to another before such killing shall have taken place each and every county through which such murdered person shall have been transported during the time intervening between his capture by such mob or riotous assemblage shall be jointly and severally liable to the forfeiture hereinabove provided

Section 11 That every officer having the duty or power of preservation or conservation of the peace at the time and place of any such putting to death as described in section seven hereof who having reasonable cause to believe that the same is being or is to be attempted neglects or omits to make all reasonable efforts to prevent the same and every officer having the duty or power of prosecuting criminal offenses at such time and place who neglects or omits to make all reasonable effort to prosecute to judgment under the laws of this State all persons participating in such mob or assemblage as herein above described except such if any as have been or are held to answer therefor [in the Superior Court] as hereinabove provided shall be deemed guilty of [an offense against the Commonwealth and shall be liable to prose-

cution therefor in the Superior Court] *a felony* and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or by both such fine and imprisonment

Section 12 That every officer having the custody within a county of any person charged with or held to answer for any crime or offense who suffers such person to be taken from his custody by a mob or riotous assemblage of three or more persons openly acting in concert in violation of law with the purpose of putting such person to death or inflicting bodily violence upon him in default of protection of such person by such county or the officers thereof shall be deemed guilty of [an offense against the Commonwealth and shall be liable to prosecution therefor in the Superior Court] *a felony* and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or by both such fine and imprisonment

Section 13 That in any prosecution for any of the offenses defined herein and in any action for forfeiture imposed as herein provided every person who has participated in lynching or in putting to death of or of the infliction of great bodily violence upon any person without authority of law and every person who entertains or has expressed any opinion in favor of lynching or in justification or excuse thereof or whose character conduct or opinions have been or are such as in the judgment of the court may tend to disqualify him for the impartial and unprejudiced trial of the cause shall

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESE

be disqualified to serve as a juror and the Attorney General in such action or prosecution shall be entitled to make full inquiry thereof and to produce evidence thereon and every person who refuses to answer any inquiry touching his qualifications on the ground that he may thereby criminate himself shall be disqualified as aforesaid

Section 14 All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed

.....
President pro tempore of the Senate.

.....
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved---The.....day of.....A. D. 1923.

.....

Lynching Legislation

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT.]

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No 7

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 6, 1923.

By Mr. RANDOLPH.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION calling on Congress to pass a Federal anti-lynching law.

WHEREAS, Congress has had before it an anti-lyching bill popularly known as the Dyer anti-lynching measure; and,

WHEREAS, It is known from statistics and other compiled facts that the evil of lynching is a stain on our nation's honor and should be abolished; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. That the Legislature of New Jersey urge upon Congress the necessity of passing an antilynching measure by the Federal government.

2. *Be it Further Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Congress of the United States and to each member of the Congressional delegation in Washington from the State of New Jersey.

F, Lynching Legislation

67TH CONGRESS, 4TH SESSION. **S. J. RES. 268.**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 9 (calendar day, JANUARY 15), 1923.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Establishing a commission to investigate lynching.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby established a commission to be known as the "Federal Commission on Lynching." The commission shall be composed of five commissioners appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The commissioners shall elect a commissioner as chairman by a majority vote. Any vacancy in the office of a commissioner shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The commissioners shall serve without compensation, except reimbursement for traveling, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the per-

formance of the duties vested in them by this resolution. The commission shall cease to exist one year from the date of its organization.

SEC. 2. That for the purpose of advising and providing information for Congress in matters of legislation which will prevent lynching and insure to all persons the equal protection of the laws and provide for the better enforcement of our treaties relating to the protection of aliens, the commission shall conduct a general inquiry into the subject of lynchings in the United States, including the number occurring, the causes thereof, the adequacy of methods now used to prevent lynchings, and the availability of additional legislative and administrative remedies for their avoidance. The commission shall report thereon to the Congress and to the President at such times as the President deems advisable and shall make to the Congress and to the President a final report not later than one year from the date of its organization.

SEC. 3. (a) That for the efficient administration of the functions vested in the commission by this resolution, any member of the commission may administer oaths, examine any witness, and require by subpœna issued and signed by the chairman of the commission (1) the attendance of any witness and the production of any paper, document, or other evidence from any place in the United States at any desig-

nated place of hearing in the United States, (2) the taking of a deposition before any designated individual having authority to administer oaths, and (3) an answer in writing under oath to any question of fact submitted. In the case of a deposition, testimony shall be reduced to writing by or under the direction of the individual taking such deposition and shall then be subscribed by the deponent. Any witness who attends or whose deposition is taken under this section shall be paid the same fees and mileage as are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States. Any notary public or other officer authorized by law of the United States or of a State, Territory, or of the District of Columbia to take acknowledgment of deeds shall be competent to administer oaths for the purposes of this section.

(b) In case of failure to comply with such subpœna or make any written answer or in case of a contumacy of any witness before the commission, the commission may invoke the aid of any United States court. The court may thereupon order the witness to comply with the requirements of such subpœna, to give evidence touching the matter in question, or to make answer in writing under oath. Any failure to obey the order may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

(c) No person shall be excused from so attending, testifying, or deposing or from so producing any book, paper,

document, or other evidence, or from making any answer in writing, on the ground that the testimony or evidence may tend to incriminate him or subject him to a penalty or forfeiture; but no natural person shall be prosecuted or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture for or on account of any transaction made or thing done as to which, in obedience to subpœna or under oath, he may testify, depose, or produce evidence or make answer in writing, except that no person shall be exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury.

SEC. 4. That the commission may appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of such employees, and make such expenditures (including expenditures for salaries, traveling expenses, per diem rates of allowance in lieu of subsistence, witness fees, rent, printing and binding, and contingent and miscellaneous expenses) as are necessary for the efficient execution of the functions vested in the commission by this resolution and as may be provided for by the Congress from time to time. All expenditures of the commission shall be allowed and paid upon the presentation of itemized vouchers therefor approved by the commission and signed by the chairman thereof.

SEC. 5. That for the efficient administration of the functions vested in the commission by this resolution, the commission may make such regulations as it deems necessary.

SEC. 6. That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $50,000, to be available for the expenditures made by the commission during its existence.

67TH CONGRESS, 4TH SESSION. } S. J. RES. 268.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Establishing a commission to investigate lynching.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

JANUARY 9 (calendar day, JANUARY 15), 1923.—Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

F. Lynching Legislation

OHIO'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW
-1896-

Section 6278. A collection of people assembled for an unlawful purpose and intending to do damage or injury to any one, or pretending to exercise correctional power over the other persons by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed a "mob" for the purpose of this chapter. An act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person shall constitute a "lynching" within the meaning of this chapter (93 v. 161 2.)

Section 6279. The term "serious injury", for the purpose of this chapter shall include such injury as permanently or temporarily disables the person receiving it from earning a livelihood by manual labor. (93 v. 161 3)

Section 6280. A person taken from officers of justice by a mob, and assaulted with whips, clubs, missiles or in any other manner, may recover, as hereafter provided a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars as damages from the county in which the assault is made. (93 v. 161 4)

Section 6281. A person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover from the county in which such assault is made, a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by manual labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars. (93 v. 162 5)

Section 6282. The legal representative of a person dying from injuries received from lynching by a mob, may recover of the county in which such injury occured a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars damages for such unlawful killing. Such sum shall be applied to the maintenance of the family and education of the minor children of such person so lynched, if any survive him, until such children are of legal age and then be distributed to the survivers, share and share alike, the widow receiving an amount equal to a child's share. If there be no widow or minor children surviving such decedent, such sum shall be distributed among the next of kin according to the laws of the distribution of the personality of an intestate. Such sum so recovered shall not be a part of the estate of such person so lynched, nor be subject to any of his liabilities. (93 v. 162 6)

Section 6283. A person suffering death or injury from a mob attempt within the provisions of this chapter. He or his legal representatives shall have a like right of action as one purposely injured or killes by such a mob. (93 v. 162 6.)

Section 6284 . Action for the recoveries provided for in this chapter must be commenced , within two years from the date of such lynching, in any court having original jurisdiction of an action for damages for malicious assault. (93 v. 162 7)

Section 6285. An order to the commissioners of a county, against which such recovery is had, to include it with the costs of action , in the next succeeding tax levy for such county, shall be a part of the judgement in every such case. (93 v.162 8)

Section 6286. If the decedent so lynched has minor children surviving him, the fund shall be turned over to a regularly appointed guardian. Such guardian shall administer such fund under the direction of the probate judge, allowing not more than five hundred dollars for counsel fees in the action for such recovery. (93 v. 162 9)

Section 6287. The county , in which lynching occurs, may recover the amount of a judgement and costs against it in favor of the legal representatives of a person killed or seriously injured by a mob from any of the persons composing such mob. A person present, with hostile intent, at such lynching shall be deemed a member of the mob and be liable to such action. (93 v. 162 10)

Section 6288. If a mob carries a prisoner into another county, or comes from annther county to commit violence on a prisoner brought from such county for safekeeping, the county in which the lynching is committed may recover the amount of the judgement and costs from the county from which the mob came, unless there was contributory negligence on the part of officals of such county in failing to protect such prisoner or disperse such mob. (93 v. 163 11)

Section 6289. This chapter shall relieve a person concerned in such lynching from prosecution for homicide or assault for engaging therein.(93 v. 163 12)

Lynching Legislation

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ASSEMBLY, NO. 283

2 Copies

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 6, 1923.

By Mr. RANDOLPH.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

AN ACT to suppress mob violence.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Any collection of individuals, five or more in number, assembled for the unlawful purpose of offering violence to the person or property of any one supposed to have been guilty of a violation of the law, or for the purpose of exercising correctional powers or regulative powers over any person or persons by violence, and without lawful authority, shall be regarded and designated as a "mob."

2. The term "serious injury," for the purposes of this act, shall include any injury to property which shall cause damage to the owner thereof, or any injury to the person which shall temporarily or permanently disable the person injured from earning a livelihood.

3. Any person or persons who shall compose a mob, with the intent to inflict damage or injury to the person or property of any individual charged with a crime, or, under the pretense of exercising correctional powers over such person or persons by violence, and without authority of law, shall be subject to a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, and may be imprisoned in the county jail not less than thirty days nor to exceed twelve months for each and every offense.

4. Any person or persons composing a mob under the provisions of this act, who shall by violence inflict material damage to the property or serious injury to the person of any other person upon the pretense of exercising correctional powers over such person or persons, by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and shall suffer imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding five years; and any person so suffering material damage to property or injury to person by a mob shall have an action against the county or city in which such injury is inflicted, for such damages as he may sustain, to an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars.

5. The surviving spouse, lineal heirs, or adopted children of any such other person or persons who, before the loss of life, were dependent for support upon any other person who shall hereafter suffer death by lynching at the hands of a mob, in any county or city of this State, may recover from such county or city damages for injury sustained by reason of the loss of life of such person, to a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars.

6. If any person shall be taken from the hands of a sheriff, or his deputy, having such person in custody, and shall be lynched, it shall be prima facie evidence of failure on the part of such sheriff to do his duty, and upon the fact being made to appear to the Governor, he shall publish proclamation declaring the office of such sheriff vacant, and his office shall thereby and thereafter immediately be vacated, and the coroner shall immediately succeed to and perform the duties of sheriff until the successor of such sheriff shall have been duly elected or appointed, pursuant to the existing law providing for the filling of vacancies in such office, and such sheriff shall not thereafter be eligible to either election or reappointment to the office of sheriff; *provided, however,* that such former sheriff may, within ten days after such lynching occurs, file with the Governor his petition for reinstatement to the office of sheriff, and shall give ten days' notice of the filing of such petition to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which such lynching occurred, and also to the Attorney-General. If the Governor, upon hearing the evidence and argument, if any presented, shall find that such sheriff has done all in his power to protect the life of

such prisoner and performed the duties required of him by existing laws respecting the protection of prisoners, then such Governor may reinstate such sheriff in his office and shall issue to him a certificate of reinstatement, the same to be effective on the day of such order of reinstatement, and the decision of such Governor shall be final.

#1 Lynching Legislation

GENERAL STATUTES OF KANSAS 1915 ,CHAPTER 28,ARTICAL XI (Page 771)

Sec. 3727 MOB AND RIOTERS,DEFINED. PUNISHMENT FOR AIDING OR ASSISTING RIOTERS

That any collection of individuals,assembled for an unlawful purpose,intending to injure any person by violence,and without authority of law,shall for the purpose of this act,be regarded as a mob,and any act of violence,committed by such mob upon the body of any person shall constitute the crime of lynching,when such act or acts of violence result in death;and any person who participates in or aids or abets such lynching,upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the State Prison for not more than five years or during life,in the discretion of the jury.

Sec. 3728 ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT

Every person who shall after the commission of the crime of lynching,counsel or assist any member of such mob,or who participates in,or who aids or abets such crime,with intent that he shall escape detention,arrest,conviction or punishment,shall be deemed an accessory after the fact,and may be charged,tried and convicted and punished, though such member,be neither charged,tried nor convicted,and upon conviction,may be confined for not more than twenty-one years,nor less than two years.

Sec. 3729 PROSECUTION OF OFFENDERS UNDER THIS ACT

Any person accused of lynching or accessory after the fact,may be prosecuted in the courts of this State,by information filed and signed by the County Attorney,or Attorney General,based upon affidavit of some competent and reputable person.

(following sections given in substance)

Sec. 3730

Crime having continuous acts in two or more counties is a crime in each,and may be prosecuted in any or all of them.

Sec.3731

If prisoner is taken from Sheriff and lynched-,is evidence of failure of duty-,crime is forfeit-,and Coroner becomes Sheriff temporarily.

Sec.3732

Sheriff may command bystanders,to assist him in the protection of the prisoner-,failure to comply with Sheriff's command is a misdemeanor.

Sec.3733

Sheriff may ask aid of militia,etc.

General Statutes of Kansas

CHAPTER 29 DAMAGES FROM ACTION OF MOBS [Page 726] (in full)

Sec. 3822 CITIES AND TOWNS LIABLE FOR DAMAGES OF MOBS.

All incorporated cities and towns shall be liable for all damages that may accrue in consequence of the action of mobs within their corporate limits, whether such damages shall be loss of property, or injury to life or limb, (law of 1868).

Sec. 3823 WHAT MAY BE GIVEN IN EVIDENCE, IN MITIGATION OF DAMAGES.

In all actions under the preceding section, the character, manner of occupancy of the property lost or destroyed, and the reputation and conduct of the person injured, may be given in evidence in mitigation of damages. (laws 1868).

Dyer Bill

67TH CONGRESS,
2D SESSION.

H. R. 13.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 25 (calendar day, JANUARY 27), 1922.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

AN ACT

To assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws, and to punish the crime of lynching.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the phrase "mob or riotous assemblage," when used in this Act, shall mean an assemblage composed of three or more persons acting in concert for the purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law as a punishment for or to prevent the commission of some actual or supposed public offense.

SEC. 2. That if any State or governmental subdivision thereof fails, neglects, or refuses to provide and maintain protection to the life of any person within its jurisdiction

against a mob or riotous assemblage, such State shall by reason of such failure, neglect, or refusal be deemed to have denied to such person the equal protection of the laws of the State, and to the end that such protection as is guaranteed to the citizens of the United States by its Constitution may be secured, it is provided:

SEC. 3. That any State or municipal officer charged with the duty or who possesses the power or authority as such officer to protect the life of any person that may be put to death by any mob or riotous assemblage, or who has any such person in his charge as a prisoner, who fails, neglects, or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to prevent such person from being so put to death, or any State or municipal officer charged with the duty of apprehending or prosecuting any person participating in such mob or riotous assemblage who fails, neglects, or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to perform his duty in apprehending or prosecuting to final judgment under the laws of such State all persons so participating except such, if any, as are or have been held to answer for such participation in any district court of the United States, as herein provided, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by a fine of not exceeding $5,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Any State or municipal officer, acting as such officer under authority of State law, having in his custody or control a prisoner, who shall conspire, combine, or confederate with any person to put such prisoner to death without authority of law as a punishment for some alleged public offense, or who shall conspire, combine, or confederate with any person to suffer such prisoner to be taken or obtained from his custody or control for the purpose of being put to death without authority of law as a punishment for an alleged public offense, shall be guilty of a felony, and those who so conspire, combine, or confederate with such officer shall likewise be guilty of a felony. On conviction the parties participating therein shall be punished by imprisonment for life or not less than five years.

SEC. 4. That the district court of the judicial district wherein a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall have jurisdiction to try and punish, in accordance with the laws of the State where the homicide is committed, those who participate therein: *Provided,* That it is first made to appear to such court that the officers of the State charged with the duty of prosecuting such offense under the laws of the State fail, neglect, or refuse to apprehend or punish such participants, or that the jurors obtainable for service in the State court having jurisdiction of the offense are so

strongly opposed to such punishment that there is no reasonable probability that those guilty of the offense can be punished in such State court. A failure for more than thirty days after the commission of such an offense to apprehend the persons guilty thereof shall be prima facie evidence of such failure, neglect, or refusal.

SEC. 5. That any county in which a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall forfeit $10,000, which sum may be recovered by an action therefor in the name of the United States against such county for the use of the family, if any, of the person so put to death; if he had no family, then to his dependent parents, if any; otherwise for the use of the United States. Such action should be brought and prosecuted by the district attorney of the United States of the district in which such county is situated in any court of the United States having jurisdiction therein. If such forfeiture is not paid upon recovery of a judgment therefor, such court shall have jurisdiction to enforce payment thereof by levy of execution upon any property of the county, or may compel the levy and collection of a tax therefor, or may otherwise compel payment thereof by mandamus or other appropriate process; and any officer of such county or other person who disobeys or fails to comply with any lawful order of the court in the premises shall be liable

to punishment as for contempt and to any other penalty provided by law therefor.

SEC. 6. That in the event that any person so put to death shall have been transported by such mob or riotous assemblage from one county to another county during the time intervening between his capture and putting to death, the county in which he is seized and the county in which he is put to death shall be jointly and severally liable to pay the forfeiture herein provided.

SEC. 7. That any act committed in any State or Territory of the United States in violation of the rights of a citizen or subject of a foreign country secured to such citizen or subject by treaty between the United States and such foreign country, which act constitutes a crime under the laws of such State or Territory, shall constitute a like crime against the peace and dignity of the United States, punishable in like manner as in the courts of said State or Territory, and within the period limited by the laws of such State or Territory, and may be prosecuted in the courts of the United States, and upon conviction the sentence executed in like manner as sentences upon convictions for crimes under the laws of the United States.

SEC. 8. That in construing and applying this Act the District of Columbia shall be deemed a county, as shall also each of the parishes of the State of Louisiana.

That if any section or provision of this Act shall be held by any court to be invalid, the balance of the Act shall not for that reason be held invalid.

Passed the House of Representatives January 26, 1922.

Attest: WM. TYLER PAGE,
Clerk.

67TH CONGRESS, 2D SESSION. } H. R. 13.

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1653

1924.

N.A.A.C.P. Reports on

Birmingham

Ala. Post.

11-18-24

FEW LYNCHINGS

...ne This Year; Lowest On Record

By United Press Leased Wire.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—...chings in the United States so ...this year have numbered only ..., by far the lowest number ...ce accurate records have been ..., according to the National ...sociation for the Advancement ... Colored People here today.

Five years ago there were al...st 10 times as many and last ...r there were more than three ...es as many as this year. Rec...ds for recent years follow:

1919—83.
1920—65.
1921—64.
1922—61.
1923—28.
1924— 9.

The decline is described by the officials of the association wholly to a campaign of education carried on by innumerable organizations among both negroes and whites.

BROOKLYN STANDARD UNION
NOVEMBER 18. 1924

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Lynchings in the United States so far this year have numbered only nine, by far the lowest number since accurate records have been kept, according to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People here to-day.

Five years ago there were almost ten times as many and last year there were more than three times as many as this year. The records for recent years are as follows: 1919, 83; 1920, 75; 1921, 64; 1922, 61; 1923, 28.

The decline is ascribed by officials of the association wholly to a campaign of education carried on by innumerable organizations among both colored and whites. The association has conducted 2,500 mass meetings among the negro population in the South.

BROOKLYN N. Y. TIMES
NOVEMBER 18 1924

...only Nine Lynchings in U. S. Listed in 1924

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NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
NOVEMBER 18, 1924

Nine Lynchings This Year Set Low Record

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Lynchings—1924
Prevented.

1675

BIRMINGHAM, AL.
Herald
JUN 15 1924

NEGROES FACING ASSAULT CHARGE TRANSFERRED

Brought To Birmingham Jail For Safe Keeping

To avoid possible mob violence, C. H. Myatt, 17, and Frank Welcher, 16, negroes, alleged to have made an attack on a 6-year-old Birmingham girl in Attalla Friday, were brought to Birmingham Saturday and placed in the county jail to await trial. The transfer was made by county authorities of Anniston.

No actual demonstrations against the two negroes have been attempted, it was learned Saturday, but officials feared the feeling against them would increase in case the young girl's condition should become much worse. Her condition was said to be serious Saturday afternoon.

The girl is alleged to have positively identified Myatt and Welcher as the two who made the attack.

ROME, GA. Tribune
SEP 23 1924

NEGRO BRUTE IS SAVED FROM MOB AFTER CONFESSION

Young Girl Attacked Near Borden Springs by Negro Working on Railroad Section

PHIPPS BLOODHOUNDS RUSHED TO THE SCENE

But Later Removed to Anniston, Ala., After He Confessed—Phipps Came to Rome

Fred Higgins, negro, is in jail in Anniston, Alabama, where he was taken Sunday to prevent a mob of infuriated citizens of near Borden Wheeler Springs and Piedmont, Alabama, from lynching him following an attempted assault on a 13-year-old white girl.

The crime occured Saturday night about 8 o'clock, near Borden Wheeler railroad station, as the girl and an older girl were walking up the tracks, toward their homes. The negro was caught Sunday morning shortly after 9 o'clock by Maurll Phipps, of Chattanooga, and two of his blood hounds.

From information reaching Rome early Sunday, the negro was one of a road gang working on the Seaboard Air Line railroad. The authorities at the Springs had believed that the guilty party was one of these negroes, so during the night they surrounded the car and kept the 15 occupants of it prisoners until morning. In the meantime Sheriff R. E. Wilson of Rome had been communicated with, and he in turn communicated with Mr. Pipps, of Chattanooga.

The girl is said to be in a terrible condition, having fought with the brute until her screams brought another woman to the scene and man frightened the negro off. Her face was torn and bruised, her clothing torn from her, and her limbs and body were cut and bruised.

As soon as Mr. Phipps arrived with two of his dogs, he was taken to the scene and the dogs were given a cap that had been dropped by the negro at the scene of the crime.

They immediately struck off in the direction pointed out by the woman, who came to the assistance of the girl, and after circling in the woods, came back to the tracks, and to the section hand car. The big dog, Conroy, was lifted to the door of the car and he made a straight line for one of the 15 negroes.

When the negro was taken from the car, Mr. Phipps had to protest with the citizens that he was on duty for the officers, and that he was going to turn his prisoner over to the authorities. Several men in the crowd aided him in this, it becoming necessary to disarm several men before it could be done.

The negro was rushed in an automobile to Piedmont, where he is said to have confessed to Mr. Phipps and Marshall Doyal. Many of the citizens of the community began to congregate, and a lynching appeared about to take place, when the negro was rushed to Anniston for safe keeping.

The affair caused much excitement not only in the community in which it occurred, but in Rome and Cedartown. Many wild reports were circulated regarding it.

After safely delivering his prisoner in Piedmont, Mr. Phipps came on to Rome with his dogs, where they attracted much attention. The dog Conroy is one of the most famous hounds in this section of the country, and its great size and brute force was the cause of much comment.

Alabama.

NEGRO HELD FOR WHITE ASSAULTS

Fred Higgins in Calhoun County Jail for Attacks on Two Young Girls

ANNISTON, ALA., Sept. 22.—Fred Higgins, negro, of Attalla, who is in the Calhoun county jail here, will be taken to Heflin soon to face a charge of attacking two girls, aged 14 and 12, at Borden Wheeler Springs in Cleburne county, it was stated Monday.

Higgins was brought here for safe keeping after bloodhounds had trailed him to a work train on the Seaboard and singled him out from other negroes. Lynching was threatened and the Cleburne county jail at Heflin was considered inadequate to withstand a mobs' attack, it was said. Higgins told officers that he was not the guilty man, but is said to have confessed to the men who captured him at the scene of the alleged attack.

Anniston Star
9-23-24

Sheffield Ala
Post
JUN 24 1924

Paul Pullen Dies of Wounds; Negro Said to be Spirited Away

Paul Pullen, young white man, who was shot in the arm Sunday afternoon at Ford City by General Stewart, negro, who used a double barrel shotgun, died about dark yesterday evening at the Colbert County Hospital in Sheffield, following amputation of his left arm in an effort to save his life.

Following news of Pullen's death mutterings were heard by friends of the young man who were said to be planning to take Stewart from the county jail in Tuscumbia and lynch him. Sheriff Cobb heard of the alleged threats, and it was reported that he removed the negro to another county jail for safekeeping. However, this afternoon the sheriff would not state whether the negro was or is in jail at Tuscumbia, or had been removed elsewhere.

Pullen was shot Sunday afternoon when he was attempting to shield a companion from being [illegible] by Stewart. He was brought to the hospital in Sheffield and at first it was thought that he might recover.

Stewart is about 40 years of age and bears a bad reputation [illegible] said.

[illegible] and has been working at the dam for some time.

The remains of young Pullen were conveyed last night to his home at Lakeview Highland, formerly known as Steenson's Hollow. Funeral services were held at 4 o'clock this afternoon at Shady Grove Methodist church, conducted by Rev. Oscar Palmer, and was largely attended.

The young man was very popular and was about twenty years of age. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Pullen, two sisters, Mrs. James Alexander and Mrs. William Gargis, and a brother, Horace Pullen. He was reported to have been engaged to marry a young lady

BRASSELL DENIES PART IN MURDER

Negro Claims He Took No Part in Disposing of Sinnreich Body

Denial that he was implicated in the murder of William A. Sinnreich, soft drink salesman, whose mutilated body was found six miles from Montgomery on the Ware's Ferry road, last August, was made to Sheriff R. C. Phelps Monday by Charley Brassell, negro, whom Hubbard Julius, alleged confessed slayer, declared aided him in attempting to dispose of the body.

Brassell was being held incommunicado under a blanket charge of suspicion Monday, following his arrest Sunday, which was brought about by the alleged confession of Julius in Birmingham. Julius is being held in the Birmingham jail and has been indicted by the Montgomery county grand jury on a charge of murder.

Other arrests are expected to take place within the next twenty-four hours, Sheriff Phelps stated Monday.

According to the officers Julius admitted striking Sinnreich with a soft drink bottle following an argument as the two were returning to Montgomery from Tuskegee. The crime was committed near the Antioch cemetery on the Mt. Meigs' road, Sinnreich's body thrown upon the truck, hauled several miles to the Ware's Ferry road, where Julius, after he had been joined by Brassell, hid the body in a clump of pines and attempted to cremate it, the officers stated.

NEGRO IN BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Dec. 15.—At the request of Montgomery county authorities, Herbert Julius, alias Jim Dorsey, negro, confessed slayer of William Sinnreich, Montgomery, will be held for safe keeping in the Jefferson county jail, according to announce-

Montgomery Advertiser
12-16-24

...ney at the sheriff's office today Sinnreich was slain several months ago.

Deputy Sheriff Tucker of Montgomery, arrived in Birmingham yesterday but said that it would be unsafe to attempt to transfer the negro to that city at the present time, because of public sentiment, which has run high since the date of the crime, one of the most sensational of Montgomery county.

Sinnreich, employe of a soft drink bottling company of Montgomery was slain on the night of August 12, while on the Wetumpka-Montgomery highway. His body was later burned, but not destroyed.

Escaping immediately after the murder, Julius' whereabouts were unknown to authorities until Friday night when he was arrested in Ensley by city detectives.

Identity of Julius was established by city fingerprint experts through the comparison of the negro's fingerprints with those on a circular sent out by Montgomery county authorities shortly after the murder.

At the time of the murder, Sinnreich and Julius were en route to Montgomery after having delivered a truck load of drinks.

Greenville-Sun

SEP 22 1924

Deputies Outwit Mob, Save Negro

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Sept. 22.—After a chase of about 25 miles through swamps and woods by bloodhounds of P. W. Phipps, of Chattanooga, and a clever ruse by deputies that outwitted an armed mob of about four hundred citizens of Piedmont, Alabama, Fred Higgins, 21 years old negro, self-confessed assailant of a twelve-year-old girl, residing at Bowden Springs, Alabama, was rushed to the Piedmont jail Saturday afternoon, and later spirited to Anniston for safe-keeping, it was reported here last night.

ROME GA Tribune

SEP 23 1924

NEGRO BRUTE IS SAVED FROM MOB AFTER CONFESSION

Young Girl Attacked Near Borden Springs by Negro Working on Railroad Section

PHIPPS BLOODHOUNDS RUSHED TO THE SCENE

Taken First to Piedmont, Ala., But Later Removed to Anniston, Ala., After He Confessed—Phipps Came to Rome

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From information reaching Rome early Sunday, the negro was one of a road gang working on the Seaboard Air Line railroad. The authorities at the Springs had believed that the guilty party was one of these negroes, so during the night they surrounded the car and kept the 15 occupants of it prisoners until morning. In the meantime Sheriff R. E. Wilson of Rome had been communicated with, and he in turn communicated with Mr. Pipps, of Chattanooga.

The girl is said to be in a terrible condition, having fought with the brute until her screams brought another woman to the scene and frightened the negro off. Her face was torn and bruised, her clothing torn from her, and her limbs and body were cut and bruised.

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When the negro was taken from the car, Mr. Phipps had to protest with the citizens that he was on duty for the officers, and that he was going to turn his prisoner over to the authorities. Several men in the crowd aided him in this, it becoming necessary to disarm several men before it could be done.

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TWO NEGROES HELD AS WITNESSES IN HAYNES MURDER

Dennis Jackson and Alberta Dunklin Spirited to Dallas County Jail; Now Under Bond; Six Arrests

HAYNEVILLE, ALA., Dec. 29.—Special to The Advertiser.—Investigation into the murder of W. Eaton Haynes, prominent Lowndes county farmer who died of wounds received from ambush a week ago, near his home at Collerine, moved smoothly Monday with the arrest of two negroes, who were lodged in the Dallas county jail.

Montgomery

The negroes were charged with being witnesses believed to possess important evidence for the state, but were later released on bond of $100 each. Advertiser

They are Dennis Jackson, and a woman, Alberta Dunklin, who live in the Collerine neighborhood. Bond was furnished by L. T. Faulk and R. G. Rives, prominent citizens of that section. 12-30-24

The negroes were arrested Sunday night by state law enforcement officers detailed to aid Sheriff "Buck" Meadows and his force in the investigation. They were literally spirited away to the Selma jail and citizens of Lowndes county early Monday launched a search that resulted in their location in the Dallas county jail. Inquiry was also made in Montgomery as to their whereabouts.

Dennis Jackson, it was said, was an eye witness to the shooting of Hugh Rives, also a prominent citizen of the county, last March, and for which Eaton Haynes and his brother, Russell, were charged with murder.

Was Shot From Ambush

W. Eaton Haynes was shot on the night of December 22, a short distance from his home, where he was called by a negro said to be James "Rabbit" Duncan. As he approached the spot where Duncan was said to be waiting with a negro Clements Kelly, a fusillade of shots rang out from ambush and he dropped mortally wounded. The negro, Kelly, also fell, shot through the left knee.

Working on the theory that the shooting was the outgrowth of an ancient feud, said to have existed between the Rives and Haynes families Sheriff Meadows arrested three members of the Rives family in connection with the crime. James Duncan was also arrested and was brought to the Montgomery county jail for safe keeping. Gordon Rives, C. G. Rives and C. G. Rives, Jr., were also arrested.

Sentiment in this section is running high, and about equally divided. Both families are prominent and known to be fearless men. This fact, it was said, would tend to discredit the theory that the Rives family was connected with the death of Haynes, who was ambushed, while on the other hand it is known that ill-feeling had existed between the families.

GIRL'S ASSAILANT RESCUED FROM MOB

Bloodhounds Run Down Negro Following His Attack on 12 Year Old Child

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Sept. 21.—After a chase of about 25 miles through swamps and woods by blood hounds of P. W. Phipps, of Chattanooga, and a clever ruse by deputies that outwitted an armed mob of about four hundred citizens of Piedmont, Alabama, Fred Higgins, 21-year-old negro, self confessed assailant of a twelve-year-old girl, residing at Bowden Springs, Alabama, was rushed to the Piedmont jail this afternoon, and later spirited to Anniston for safe keeping, it was reported here tonight.

Greenville-Sun

The negro was located by the hounds at a work train on the Seaboard Air Line railway, about six miles above Piedmont, where he was employed. A mob of about 200 armed men had surrounded the train when the hounds and officers arrived, and were threatening several of the negro employes of the road, who were quartered in the train. Higgins was picked from the group of negroes by the hounds, and confessed to the crime after a grilling by the officers. 9-22-24

Realizing that he would be seized by the mob, the officers cut out a hole through the back of the car, placed the man in an automobile, and rushed him to Piedmont. The mob immediately took up pursuit, gaining members on the way, reached Piedmont a short time later and quickly gathered about the jail. The deputies on guard were forced to threaten to shoot several times, as the crowd plunged toward the little house.

Arkansas.

1679

BRAVE MEN, UNARMED IN CABIN, DEFY MOB UNTIL HELP ARRIVES

Van Buren, Ark., Jan. 4.—This city is in a comparative calm following the attempted lynching of two men accused of the assault and murder of Mrs. Effie Lattimer, a 25-year-old white woman, at her home near Catcher last week. A checking up of events shows that beside the three men arrested for the crime 11 others have been placed in the county jail and another is dead from the result of a gunshot wound received at the hands of one of the members of the mob.

According to the police the trouble started when Mrs. Lattimer was found dying in her home Saturday morning. She had been struck over the head and shot in the back by some one standing near her with a shotgun. At once the authorities began rounding up possible suspects, all of whom are members of the Race. The men arrested are Spurgeon Ruck, William Bettis and John Clay, a 15-year-old boy.

Is No Proof

There has been nothing definite learned as yet by which the men can be charged with the crime except what authorities claim is a confession by Ruck. All of the men were badly frightened and Ruck is the only person to make a statement at all. In their haste to prove these men guilty authorities have overlooked the fact that the woman's husband left home a week ago and took most of the provisions from the home. Since the death of his wife he has not returned, nor has he sent any inquiry to the police concerning the affair.

After Ruck and Bettis had been arrested authorities accompanied by a large crowd of white "deputies" attempted to question Charles Ruck, 65-year-old father of the accused man, and upon his refusal to talk he was shot down by one of the mob. He died a little while later. Information was then received that feeling was running high among citizens of both races. Word was brought to Sheriff Maxey of Crawford county that a truckload of white men was halted by Gus Richardson and that the man, single-handed, searched every man on it for arms. When none was discovered Richardson allowed the truck to proceed. Upon the strength of this the sheriff went with his posse in search of Richardson and found him in a log cabin with 10 other men. They were ordered to surrender, but refused until they were assured that they would be given protection. This step was taken by the men after they were assured that there would be no lynchings, and when Captain Otto Kayer of Ozark, who was sent with a machine gun and 10 men from Little Rock to assist the authorities, not as a National guardsman, but as private citizens, threatened to open fire on the house with his machine gun, the men came out. Even then they would not give up their arms until they were placed inside the jail and pronounced safe.

Held for Trial

Ruck, Bettis and Clay were spirited from the jail here and carried by a high-powered Packard to Little Rock, where they will remain until the special session of the grand jury is called in Van Buren, when it is thought that it will be safe for them to return. Judge R. S. Wilson, who will call the grand jury, has explained that the cases of the 11 men who are being held will not be brought up at this session. There are charges against them, according to authorities. No action has yet been taken to determine the cause of the shooting of Ruck, the aged farmer.

All investigations into the death of Mrs. Lattimer have centered about the men held in jail to such an extent that Lattimer, the husband, has been forgotten and is being allowed to go unquestioned.

FIRST VICTIM DIES IN RIOTS AT FORT SMITH

Aged Negro's Wounds Fatal. Special Inquiry Ordered.

VAN BUREN, Ark., Dec. 31.—Charles Ruck, 52, negro, was shot Sunday at the height of a race disturbance at Catcher settlement, growing out of the confessed brutal slaying of Mrs. Bob Latimer by two negroes Friday, died late this afternoon from his wounds, it was announced by Dr. W. G. Bennett, a settlement physician, who arrived here early tonight.

Ruck was the father of Spurgeon Ruck, one of the pair alleged to have confessed to the killing of Mrs. Latimer, and who, with William Bettis, another negro, is held in the state penitentiary at Little Rock for safekeeping.

More than one hundred negroes from in and around Catcher Settlement flocked to Van Buren today, believing the protection of a negro colony there would be safer than their farm homes.

It was the belief of Circuit Attorney Dave Partain, who went to the settlement with a machine gun squad of national guardsmen from Ozark early Sunday afternoon, that the threat of strict military rule on the settlement by the soldiers, together with the promise of Judge James W. Cochran of the Fifteenth Circuit Bench, for a special grand jury session Wednesday, averted further trouble. Date for trial has not been set.

Eleven negroes, charged with night riding, and according to officers, leaders in a lawless element in the Catcher Settlement, who were brought here after they had been found barricaded in a log cabin with weapons and ammunition, are still held in the Crawford County jail awaiting grand jury action.

With the departure of practically all the negro population of the district, Catcher quieted down late this afternoon, and the armed men who remained in the neighborhood ready for action in the event of a riot during all of last night, were reported leaving for their homes tonight.

Many threats have been uttered against the two negroes held in the penitentiary, and officers are reported making arrangements for protection provided they are brought here for trial.

WHITE GIRL ATTACKED BY NEGRO NOW JAILED

Mob Violence Feared—Removal to Penitentiary Sought.

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Apr. —Morris Holmes, negro, charged with attacking a 14-year-old white girl near Rison Sunday afternoon, was brought to Pine Bluff this morning for fear of mob violence at Rison. Late early tonight he was taken to the penitentiary walls at Little Rock when officers here heard a mob might attack the local jail in an effort to lynch him.

It was charged that the negro chased the girl for some distance after seizing her, tore her belt and tore some of her clothing when she broke away from him. Her screams frightened the negro away but he was later captured and brought to Pine Bluff for safe keeping.

Holmes told Jailer Jesse Alford that he had chased the girl but claimed that he thought she was a yellow girl with whom he had been friendly.

The negro has relatives in Pine Bluff and this afternoon several citizens of Rison were seen in the city. Fearing that an attack might be made on the jail during the night, Jailer Alford telephoned to Sheriff Cash of Cleveland County and asked him to send deputies here to take the negro to the penitentiary.

The jail in Pine Bluff is virtually mob proof but Jailer Alford did not wish to be forced to fight off an attack and suggested that the negro be removed.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

Delaware.

1680

GUARD IS MOBILIZED TO PREVENT LYNCHING

Wilmington, Del., May 16.—The local detachment of the national guard was quietly mobilized today in order to be ready for immediate effective service in the event that an attempt should be made to lynch Annie Lewis, negress, who killed Mrs. Mary G. Davis, police matron, in a cell last Sunday night. The negress, who is 23 and was arrested for carrying a pistol, has confessed that she killed the matron, who was 67, in order to obtain her keys and escape, but did not mean to kill her.

Last night and early today small crowds assembled in the vicinity of the county workhouse at Greenbank but were dispersed by state and city police before any concentration could be effected. It was believed by the authorities the crowd was attracted by curiosity, there being rumors that a lynching would be attempted.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MAY 17, 1924

Delawareans Threaten Lynching of Negress

WILMINGTON, Del., Saturday.—Following reported threats of lynching, twenty-five policemen and several highway police patrolled the grounds surrounding the workhouse where Annie Lewis, negress, who is alleged to have confessed killing Mrs. Mary G. Davis, aged police matron, is awaiting trial.

Orders were issued that no one, afoot or in motor cars, would be allowed to loiter in the vicinity of the workhouse, and a detachment of the National Guard was held in readiness for possible trouble. Rifles from the police station were sent to the jail.

Outwardly everything appeared quiet, but the authorities said they were "taking no chances."

The negress, who, police said, confessed that she had beaten Mrs. Davis to death in her cell last Sunday night in order to obtain her keys and escape, was indicted by the New Castle County Grand Jury on a charge of first degree murder, and May 27 was tentatively set for her trial.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

Florida.

1681

TERRELL'S BROTHER HOPES NO LYNCHING WILL BE ATTEMPTED

DUVAL STATION PLANTER URGES ALLEGED SLAYERS BE GIVEN A FAIR TRIAL.

GUARDSMEN STILL AT JAIL ALL SATURDAY

Klan Official Denies Rumors That His Organization Planned to Get Negroes.

"If plans exist to storm the Duval county jail and seize the two negroes and negress, confined there on charges of slaying my brother, Atley B. Terrell, I hope they will be abandoned," R. L. Terrell, a planter, living near Duval Station, told Detective Inspector C. H. Hurlbert yesterday.

Terrell read in yesterday's Florida Times-Union that during Friday night Sheriff W. H. Dowling had frustrated a plot to seize the negroes and that the National Guardsmen had been called out by Governor Cary A. Hardee to protect them.

Terrell came to the city about noon. He went immediately to Inspector Hurlbert, his life-long friend. "It isn't my wish and I would like it made known," Terrell said, "that I hope no mob violence be done to the alleged slayers of my brother. I want the alleged slayers to be given a fair and impartial trial."

Jail Still Camp.

The Duval county jail was again last night a veritable armed camp as the forty-eight National Guardsmen and two mounted howitzer guns stood silent guard over Frank Johnson, Eugene Mills and Della Walker, being held in connection with the slaying of Terrell on the morning of December 20.

Like Friday night, the guard was maintained last night, but there had not been the slightest untoward incident up to 3 o'clock this morning. The same zones, which were established Friday night, were again maintained last night, existing within two blocks of the jail in every direction, and no one was allowed to enter the zones without a pass.

The streets around the jail were again deserted early last night, except for the guardsmen, who walked their posts. Around fires built at Washington and Beaver streets, those who waited to relieve the different watches, kept warm. A number of guardsmen were detailed inside of the prison.

Frank Johnson, one of the negroes, is said by the police to have confessed that he shot and killed Atley B. Terrell, a locomotive engineer on December 20, when Terrell, surprising Johnson in the act of burglarizing his room, fired at him. Eugene Mills, alleged to have confessed he was Johnson's accomplice, and Della Walker, who is said to have aided Johnson in leaving the city after the murder, were transferred to the county jail Tuesday night from the city jail.

Klan Not Concerned.

"Many rumors were broadcast Friday night and yesterday that the Ku Klux Klan was behind the alleged attempt to storm the jail," a high official of the Klan said, "but I wish to publicly announce that every klansman in Jacksonville and the vicinity was at a regular meeting of that organization in the hall Friday night, where plans were being completed for the Klan convention, which will be held Monday.

"The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan stand for law and order," he said, "and any rumor that this organization was behind such an unlawful movement is false. We can account for every member in Jacksonville and the vicinity, as over 1,000 were at the meeting."

Cooperation of operators at the Southern Bell telephone office Friday night aided Colonel Turck in getting a number of guardsmen on duty in quick time.

Turck Thanks Hello Girls.

"I feel that it would be an injustice not to tell of the splendid service rendered by the Southern Bell Telephone Company Friday night," Colonel Turck said. "The fact that officers and men of the National Guard were at the armory within twenty-five minutes after the receipt of a telegram from the governor, which was transmitted to me by telephone, and the fact that an hour and twenty minutes after the call, troops were in full command of the Duval county jail and adjoining blocks, was in no small part due to the speed, efficiency and willing service rendered by the operators.

LeVane was shot by Constable Lord to be seated. LeVane sat down. The constable walked into an adjoining office to telephone. When he returned, LeVane was missing. Persons in front of the building said they saw a man, answering LeVane's description, run west on Forsyth street.

MOB HALTED BY RAIN OF BULLETS

Jacksonville, Fla., May 9.—An attempt to lynch Joe Waldon was frustrated here by his refusal to allow the mob to take him without a fight. A mob of white men set out to capture him. Waldon was heavily armed. When found by the police he had a shotgun, a pistol, a goodly supply of ammunition for both weapons, several knives, and had barricaded himself in a small house. He fired upon the mob and kept them at bay until the arrival of the officers.

Waldon was arrested and taken to police headquarters where the charge against him was investigated and it was found out that he had not assaulted a white woman as first charged, but it is alleged that he had stolen a pistol from the home of a white woman. The mob thought, however, that he had attacked a white woman and was bent on lynching him. It would have succeeded had not Waldon had the manhood to defend his life. The Grand Crossing section is known to be a place where many lynchings have occurred in Duval county. Waldon was held for preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace J. S. Geiger on the charge of stealing the weapon. No further attempt has been made to molest him.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

(3) Florida.

1682

FLORIDA PRISON BECOMES ARSENAL WHEN MOB THREATENS 3 PRISONERS JAIL IS CHANGED INTO ARMED CAMP

Eighty National Guardsmen and Two Mounted Machine Guns Stand Silent Guards Over Three Negroes

(Commonwealth News Service)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 12.—The Duval county jail early today was a veritable armed camp as eighty national guardsmen and two mounted machine guns stood silent guard over three Negroes, reported to be quarry of a mob, rumors said, who planned to storm and loot the building and forcibly remove them because of their alleged connection with the killing of a white man.

All night long the guard was maintained, but there was not the slightest untoward incident. Zones were established within two blocks of the jail in every direction, and no one was allowed to enter the zones without a pass. The streets around the jail were deserted after early evening except for the guardsmen.

Frank Johnson, one of the Negroes held, is said by police to have confessed that he shot and killed Atley B. Terrell, a locomotive engineer on December 20, when Terrell, surprising Johnson in the act of burglarizing his room, fired at him. Eugene Mills, alleged to have confessed he was Johnson's accomplice, and Delta Wilker, who is said to have secreted Johnson, are the other Negroes held. Sheriff W. H. Dowling last evening received a report, the source of which was not revealed, that plans were under way to seize the Negroes. Governor Cary A. Hardee, appraised of the report, authorized the calling out of the guardsmen. It has not been determined how long they will be on duty.

A COMMENDABLE ACT

OFTEN in the South which is known to mistreat the Negro, individuals act in such a way that is worthy of the highest commendation and praise. In view of the fact that there is being agitated a federal anti-lynch law which is supported by the argument that the States are unable to prevent lynching, it certainly is worthy of commendation when some act to the contrary of this is noted.

On last Friday, Sheriff Dowling became aware of a plot to lynch the two men and one woman held in the county jail in connection with the murder of a white man, Atley B. Terrel. He immediately requested troops from the governor and had the jail placed under guard. This was done before anyone knew what was up.

This quick action of Sheriff Dowling and Judges Gibbs and Gray is worthy of the highest commendation, and is to be pointed out to other officials of the law as an example of what can be done to prevent the hideous crime of lynching. Even before the mob gathered the wide awake sheriff had forces enough present to stop any mob which may have gathered. Herein lies a solution of the lynching evil, and we wager if this same thing is done more often there will be still less lynchings in this country. The citizens of this city and county should praise their sheriff and justices who brought this about.

It is also to be noted that the brother of the murdered man begged that these supposed murderers of his brother be given a fair trial. The willingness to have the law take its course on the part of a member of society shows a feeling for law and order in this community, and let us hope that such will be made more evident.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. Times-Union

FEB 11 1924

PREPAREDNESS

We do not know whether or not an attempt would have been made to lynch prisoners confined in Duval county jail a few nights ago if proper precautions had not been taken to prevent it, but we do know that proper precautions were taken and that no attempt was made. Sheriff Dowling was positive that an attempt would be made and he was probably right. At any rate he took the proper precautions and so our city was saved the disgrace of a lynching.

We do not agree with the idea that a lynching in every community is necessarily a disgrace to the community. It is possible and in fact sometimes true that such crimes cannot be prevented. Most of the court houses in Florida are in small towns without any adequate police force and without military protection. In such towns if the sheriff has reason to believe an attempt will be made to lynch a prisoner and has reason to suspect it in time he may summon help sufficient to prevent it; but a suddenly formed mob in a small town may do its work before sufficient force can be found to preserve the law.

But a lynching in Jacksonville would be a disgrace to Jacksonville. This city has more than one hundred thousand people, has a well organized police force and several military organizations. A lynching here would mean that the safety of the prisoners was neglected and that no reasonable effort was made to preserve the power of the law. We are pleased but not surprised that Sheriff Dowling acted promptly in this matter.

And even in the smaller towns the sheriffs should give the law the benefit of the doubt. If there is the slightest probability that a lynching will be attempted the proper precautions should be taken at once. It is much better to send troops where they are not needed than to withhold them from a place where they are needed. If precautions are taken where they are not needed little harm is done. A few men are put to a little inconvenience and a county is put to a little expense but that is all. But if a lynching results from neglect of proper preparations for preventing it incalculable harm is done

The number of crimes in this country is unusually large and has been for a number of years but as an offset for this disagreeable fact the number of lynchings has decreased to such an extent as to give hope that the country will be free from this worst form of lawlessness in a few years.

Lynchings—1924 Prevented.

Georgia. (2).

1673

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

JAN 1 - 192

CULPEPPER SHOT, SHE WAS SEIZED, HER STORY SAYS

William Jackson, Charged With Dual Crime, Spirited Away

PLACED IN FULTON TOWER

Wounded Man Robbed by Black and Money Given to Woman

IDENTIFICATION IS POSITIVE

Deputies Find Negro's Clothing Soaking in Water Bucket

Sheriff J. R. Hicks, Jr., and Deputy L. J. Stevens quietly left Macon in an automobile at 4:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon, with William Jackson, negro, for Atlanta, boarding a train at a station several miles north of here and lodging the negro in the Fulton Tower for safekeeping. The negro is under arrest for shooting and seriously wounding J. W. Culpepper, 21-year-old employe of the Central of Georgia Railway, and then criminally assaulting his 17-year-old girl companion in Central City Park Sunday night.

The departure was made in such haste that the name of the negro was not even booked at the sheriff's office, and for hours later not even the office force knew of the serious turn taken in the case.

After a consultation with the young woman, deputies learned that the negro had stepped to the automobile and shot Culpepper at close range, then forced her to leave the machine and accompany him to the Ocmulgee River levee, where he assaulted her. Returning to Culpepper, helpless, the negro robbed him, giving the girl $1.40 and telling her to go to her home in a taxicab.

No Knowledge of Confession

Piecing together the bits of evidence, along with the description given by the victim, the negro was taken into custody downtown. No time was lost getting him away from Macon, the officers fearing that he would be lynched in case the news spread.

It was learned that he had left his home Sunday night to go to work at a fertilizer plant a short distance from the scene of the affair, but had returned home early. Deputies yesterday afternoon searched his house and found the negro's clothing soaking in a bucket of water, hidden beneath the front door steps.

Whether or not Jackson confessed the crime could not be learned last night, but the young woman positively identified him as the perpetrator of the crime.

Culpepper's condition is critical, and physicians attending him at the Macon Hospital entertain little hope for his recovery.

VALDOSTA, GA. Times, Record

JAN 1 - 1924

NEGRO RUSHED TO ATLANTA TO AVOID TROUBLE

Bibb County Officials Did Some Quick Work

Negro is Charged With Attempted Murder, Criminal Assault and Robbery Sunday Night in Macon.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1.—A negro believed to be William Jackson, and arrested by the Bibb county officials in connection with the alleged attack on J. W. Culpepper and his companion, a Cordele woman, was brought to the Fulton county jail today.

The negro was in charge of Sheriff Hicks, of Bibb county, and was lodged in jail here for safe keeping.

Culpepper was shot and seriously wounded Sunday night in an automobile at Central City Park, Macon. His girl companion, who was 17 years old, told the officers that the negro came up to the auto and shot Culpepper and then with the pistol forced her to leave the car accompany him some distance away to the Ocmulgee river levee where she was assaulted. She was then carried back to the car where Culpepper was helplessly wounded. The girl says that the negro then rifled Culpepper's pockets, taking all of his money giving her a small amount and telling her to get a taxicab and return to the city.

Taking the description as furnished by the girl the officers arrested Jackson, it being learned that he left home Sunday night to go to work at a fertilizer factory, where he was on the night shift. He returned home early in the evening, which aroused suspicion. His clothing was found soaking in a bucket of water which was hidden under the back steps. It is also reported that as soon as he was arrested the girl was given an opportunity to look Jackson over and that she declared he was the man.

Fearing some attempt to do the negro bodily harm the Bibb county officers quickly slipped the negro out of Macon and made their way to this city with him.

Negro Brought Here For Safe Keeping

William Jackson, a negro, was brought to Atlanta from Macon Tuesday and lodged in the Fulton County jail for safe keeping following the shooting of J. W. Culpepper, 21-year-old employe of the Central of Georgia Railroad Sunday night. The shooting took place in Central Park.

Sheriff Jim Hicks took the negro from Macon in an automobile, boarding the train some miles from the city.

Culpepper, who was shot through the neck, is reported in a dying condition. The bullet is still in his body, resting near the spinal column.

DUBLIN NEGRO SAFE IN MACON HOSPITAL

Dublin, Ga., January 10.—(Special)—Charlie Barlow, the negro who wounded Sheriff Lester Watson yesterday and was himself shot by a posse in an effort to arrest him after he had barricaded himself in his house, was removed to a Macon hospital today for safe keeping.

The negro rallied today and may recover from the wounds received. Sheriff Watson is conscious, and unless complications set in, it is believed he will recover.

CULPEPPER, SHOT BY NEGRO, IS DEAD

Macon, Ga., January 4.—(Special) J. W. Culpepper, 21, who was the victim of a shot fired at Central City Park last Sunday night while he was in the company of a young woman from south Georgia, died at the Macon hospital this afternoon, and Robert Hill, a negro, is now being held in the Fulton county tower, Atlanta, charged with shooting Culpepper, committing a criminal assault on Culpepper's companion, and robbing Culpepper.

The case is unusual in the history of crime in this county and efforts are being made to connect Hill with numerous other crimes committed at Central City Park, where a long chain of robberies and shootings have gone unsolved, officers stated, hardened by alleged numerous crimes, Hill is believed to have reached such a stage of boldness in the Culpepper case that he returned to the scene of the shooting after having attacked the young woman and robbed Culpepper.

County officers today appeared to be satisfied that the negro now under arrest is the one who shot and killed Lee Watts, a 16-year-old boy, on April 23, 1921, within a few yards of the shooting of last Sunday night. Watts and a younger boy, Willie Blackwell, had gone to the river trestle below the park to go in swimming. They were together on the levee when the Watts boy was shot and killed. The negro who did the shooting escaped, but his description tallies with that of Robert Hill.

Sheriff Hicks claims there is little doubt but that Hill is guilty of having prepetrated Sunday night's triple crime. He claims to have a perfect chain of evidence.

An effort will be made to have the girl in the case return to Macon to testify at the inquest to be held tomorrow morning. She is now under the care of a physician at her home in south Georgia.

The body of Culpepper will be carried to his former home at Barney, Ga., tomorrow morning following the inquest.

Besides his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Culpepper, he is survived by five sisters, Mrs. B. L. Kuhn, Mrs. B. F. Long, Mrs. L. E. Moore and Misses Virginia and May Culpepper, all of Barney, and two brothers, Paris Culpepper, of Barney, and Sam Culpepper, of Macon.

NEGRO TO REMAIN IN ATLANTA TOWER.

Robert Hill, negro, arrested and identified in Macon as the man who perpetrated the attack on the man and young woman, was rushed to Atlanta shortly following the shooting by Bibb county officers, who feared that an attempt at lynching might be made. He is held at the Tower and will probably remain here until he is called to face charges of murder and assault in Macon.

NEGRO IS ARRESTED ON DUAL CHARGE

Macon, Ga., Decemb[illegible] 31.—Sheriff J. R. Hicks and his deputies late this afternoon arrested a negro who is said to have been positively identified as the one who shot and seriously wounded J. W. Culpepper last night. Following the shooting the negro is said to have criminally assaulted Culpepper's girl companion, later robbing Culpepper and leaving him in Central City park.

The young woman in the case, 17-year-old daughter of a prominent Cordele family, picked out the negro this afternoon.

She said that after the negro shot Culpepper he seized her and forced her to accompany him to the Ocmulgee river levee, where he attacked her. Then, she said, he forced her to return to the scene of the shooting, where the negro robbed Culpepper.

Sheriff Hicks and a deputy took the negro in an automobile to some point north of here, where they expected to board the 5 o'clock train for Atlanta to put the prisoner in jail there for safekeeping. The departure from Macon was in such haste that even the name of the negro was not booked.

The negro is believed to be William Jackson, employee of a fertilizer plant. He left home last night to go to work and when he returned, the officers found, immediately put his clothing in a bucket of water. They found it still soaking there late this afternoon.

Culpepper's condition is critical and physicians attending him hold out little hope for his recovery.

GEORGIA PATROLMAN IS KILLED BY NEGRO

Slayer Captured And Taken To Unnamed Jail For Safety.

VALDOSTA, Ga., Jan. 31.—Patrolman A. D. Mullins, of the local police department, who was shot by Yancey Wheeler, a negro, early today as the latter fled from the officers who sought to arrest him for creating a disturbance in the negro section here, died early this evening.

The negro was captured about five miles outside the city a few hours after the shooting, and later removed to an unannounced place for safe keeping, when it was learned that Mullins' condition was critical.

LIFE TERM GIVEN TO NEGRO SLAYER

A verdict of guilty with a recommendation for mercy was returned by a jury in criminal division of Fulton superior court at 8:30 o'clock Thursday night in the case of Robert Hill, Macon negro, who was tried for the murder of J. W. Culpepper in Central City park, Macon, December 30, 1923. The jury deliberated about four hours.

Judge G. H. Howard immediately sentenced Hill to the state penitentiary for life. Attorneys, Early V. Butler, of Macon, and R. L. Tomlinson, of Atlanta, counsel for Hill, announced intention of filing a motion for new trial Friday.

Negro Claims Innocence.

Asked by Judge Howard if he had anything to say why sentence should not be pronounced in accordance with the verdict, the negro said:

"I want to ask the court for mercy, as I am an innocent man. I am not the man and I ought not to have been convicted."

Judge Howard told the negro the jury had already provided in the verdict for the mercy of the court to be shown him, and life imprisonment was the only sentence the court could pronounce.

Jury Sent to Dinner.

The jury retired about 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Not having reached a verdict at 7 o'clock the jury was sent to dinner by the court, returning to the court house an hour later. The defendant was taken back to Fulton Tower, and Judge Howard went home to dinner, leaving instructions for the jury to be taken to a hotel for the night, if a verdict were not reached by 8:30 o'clock. A telephone call brought the judge back to receive the verdict just before the time limit expired.

The main evidence against Hill was the testimony of Miss India Cox, 17, formerly of Cordele, who recently moved to Macon to accept employment. She swore Hill shot Culpepper to death in her presence and without cause. She said Hill escaped but was arrested the day after the homicide upon her identification.

Solicitor General Charles H. Garrett and his assistant, P. H. Lamb, of Macon, and Attorney J. H. Hudson, of Atlanta, represented the state. Hill was tried here on a change of venue granted by Judge H. A. Mathews, because his counsel contended feeling was strong against the negro in Bibb county.

Charged With Slaying Man in Macon, Negro To Stand Trial Here

Macon, Ga., March 24.—(Special.) Charles H. Garrett, solicitor general of the Macon circuit, and P. H. Lamb, assistant, will go to Atlanta tomorrow night to conduct the prosecution of Robert Hill, negro, scheduled to go to trial in Fulton superior court before Judge G. H. Howard Wednesday. According to advices received here today, the case has been given the right-of-way.

Hill is under indictment for the slaying of J. W. Culpepper, a 21-year-old railroad shop worker, whom he is charged with shooting to death at Central City park on the night of December 30. He is also charged with a criminal assault on Culpepper's girl companion.

Relatives of Hill today forwarded to Atlanta a complete change of clothing for the trial, the ones he took to Atlanta not being available for him to wear in court because of an outbreak of smallpox in the Fulton tower.

Solicitor General Garrett stated today the murder case will be called first and he believes the state's case can be presented within two or three hours after the jury is secured. E. W. Butler, attorney for Hill, stated today a fight will be made and that no plea of guilty will be entered. He has not yet announced he is ready for trial.

MACON NEGRO KILLS WHITE MAN; GETS MERCY

Tried in Fulton County Superior Court on Change of Venue.

ATLANTA, GA., March 2[illegible].—Robert Hill, Macon, Ga., negro, tried on a charge of murder in connection with the slaying of J. W. Culpepper in Macon city park last December, today was found guilty of murder with recommendation for mercy, by a jury in Fulton county superior court here. He was granted a change of venue upon representation that it might have been unsafe to try him in Bibb county, of which Macon is the county seat.

Miss India Cox, 17 year old girl, Culpepper's companion on the night he was shot, testified that Hill was the negro who did the shooting. Hill immediately was sentenced to life imprisonment. His attorneys announced intent to appeal.

Woman Watches As "Other Man" Shoots Husband

Macon, Ga., June 22.—H. L. Lanier, 51, painter, was shot down on the street this afternoon when he passed the home of [illegible] Kitchens, where Lanier's wife was living.

The shooting is alleged to have been done by Kitchens, who, witnesses say, exclaimed, "I've got you where I want you."

After Kitchens emptied his gun, a mob began to form for the expressed purpose of lynching him. Officers arriving from police headquarters on motorcycles dispersed the mob, and placed Kitchens under arrest. He is being held without bail.

Six shots were fired, four entering the body of Lanier, two piercing his intestines. Two shots went wild and narrowly missed eye-witnesses of the tragedy.

Mrs. Lanier told police that Kitchens shot in self-defense, but eye-witnesses told police that Lanier was unarmed, and that after Kitchens shot Lanier in the back, he continued to fire into his body as Lanier lay prostrate on the ground, begging for mercy.

Kitchens returned to the house, and was in conversation with Mrs. Lanier when the police arrived.

Kitchens gave his age as 36. Mrs. Lanier says she is 41. Kitchens was a former textile worker, but was out of work.

Doctors at a hospital state that there is little chance for Lanier to live.

Before he became unconscious, Lanier charged that Kitchens had stolen his wife several months ago, but he denied that he precipitated the clash this afternoon.

2 NEGROES ARE HELD IN DOUBLE SHOOTING

Savannah, Ga., September 14.—Matt and Tate Bennett, father and son, negroes, accused of shooting Leon and Henry Vickers, in Douglas, in an argument over a game, were brought to Savannah and lodged in the Chatham county jail for safekeeping tonight by Chief B. M. Barrineau, of the Douglas police.

The negroes admit that they shot tht Vickers, Chief Barrineau said. The Vickers were still alive, but in a desperate condition, according to the last he heard on leaving for Savannah.

Chief Barrineau said that the Bennetts were arrested Wednesday morning following the shooting, and were at first placed in the Valdosta jail. It was necessary to move them to Bainbridge for fear of mob violence, however, and after a short while in Bainbridge he decided to bring them to Savannah to avoid further trouble.

ATLANTA, GA. Constitution

DEC 19 1924

LEADING GEORGIA CITIZENS TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS

Governor Calls Attention in Proclamation to Decrease in Number of Lynchings in State.

CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR CAPITOL, JAN. 15

Walker Outlines List of Problems To Be Discussed at Meeting—Urges General Cooperation.

Drastic action to rid the state of Georgia of crime and mob violence was taken Thursday by Governor Clifford Walker, who simultaneously called an extraordinary meeting here at the state capitol for January 15 of law enforcement officers and public spirited citizens, and announced a standing reward of $500 for arrest with proof to convict of the leader of any mob, and $100 for each member of such a mob, whether masked or unmasked.

The governor also ordered that the same schedule of rewards should be posted in the case of the band of 14 men which recently seized and flogged Charles J. Shelverton, Jr., son of the former mayor of Austell.

Listed among those who have been summoned and invited to attend the special conference in January are sheriffs, deputies, state officials, law enforcement officers, social welfare workers and representative citizens of the state of Georgia.

Mob Violence Decreases.

Governor Walker, in his executive order, pointed out that the number of lynchings and other outbreaks of mob violence in Georgia has been greatly decreased during the year 1923.

After referring to the Shelverton case, he then stated,

"This administration is committed to the employment of every agency of authority of the state government to suppress such illegal acts," and then set forth the amount of reward offered in the Shelverton case and in all future cases of mob violence.

This reward in the Shelverton case is additional to an offer of $500 made by the town of Austell and $100 by Cobb county for apprehension and conviction of the guilty parties.

In his proclamation, the governor sets forth as some of the questions which will be submitted for discussion at that time, as follows:

1. Proper cooperation of state and federal officials in enforcement of prohibition laws.

2. Building a sentiment against crime in general looking to the lessening of murder, robbery and mob violence, within the state.

3. Enforcement of the automobile tag tax laws, cigar and cigarette stamps laws, and all other license laws of the state.

4. Relation of violation of any one law upon the defiance of other laws. The challenge to public sentiment for respect for all laws.

Governor's Statement.

In his call for this conference, the governor says:

"The wave of crime, including murder, robbery and other acts of violence, now demanding public attention, is by no means limited to the state of Georgia. Such conditions exist in every state of the union. While we have our awful Bloodworth and Jones cases today, South Carolina has within the month executed two young men for practically similar crimes. The press of Wednesday noted that a number of additional judges had been placed on the criminal bench to try the overwhelming number of murder cases now pending in the city of Chicago. This fact, however, does not minimize the shame upon our state. Its fair name challenges every good citizen to make every possible contribution to the moulding of a public sentiment for respect for the law.

"In that spirit I have for weeks considered calling a law enforcement conference to be held in the state capitol at Atlanta to which the sheriffs and other law enforcement officers, all social welfare organizations and any other citizens interested in welfare of the state would be invited to attend."

In closing his proclamation, he says:

"I earnestly ask the cooperation of all patriotic citizens in the efforts of this conference and urge the officials above indicated to prepare now to attend."

The hour of meeting is set for 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, January 15.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

Idaho.

1683

ALLEGED SLAYER OF TWO THREATENED BY MOB

Butte Miner Moved to Safe Place After Alleged Murder.

LEWISTON, IDAHO, April 4.—Authorities late today transferred Ralph L. Waller, [illegible] confessed slayer of two persons, from the Lewiston jail to Walla Walla, when threats of mob violence were made.

Waller was arrested this morning and confessed to shooting to death Alfred Waldman and his wife, Ida, and wounding, probably fatally, Mrs. Barbara Waldman, mother of Alfred, near Pomeroy last night, according to Chief of Police Eugene Gassoll.

When news of his arrest became known a crowd of several hundred persons gathered about the court house in which he was confined.

Lynchings—1924. 1678 Illinois.

Prevented

CHICAGO HERALD EXAMINER
JANUARY 10, 1924

FEAR LYNCH MOB AT SKIBA INQUEST

Menacing Crowd Causes Coroner to Change Scene of Hearing; Negro Trio Held.

A mob of 1,000 persons, clamoring for admission to the inquest into the death of policeman Vincent Skiba yesterday, caused Coroner Wolff to hurriedly change the scene of the hearing from the squad room of the South Chicago police station.

After ten seconds' deliberation the coroner's jury returned verdicts against the three Negroes held in connection with the killing of Skiba Monday night in South Chicago.

Long before the time set for the inquest a crowd gathered, impatiently demanding that the prisoners be brought forth for the inquest.

Warning Reaches Police.

Several anonymous tips received by Coroner Wolff and police officials warned them that a lynching party had been planned.

As the mob became threatening and unmanageable, Coroner Wolff ordered that the inquest be secretly held in Judge Jacobs' court instead of in the squad room of the station.

All those who learned of the change were searched by a heavy police guard before they were admitted. The length of time for the hearing and the return of the verdict set a record, according to Coroner Wolff.

Negroes Are Indicted.

The grand jury yesterday voted true bills against Lucius Dalton, Henry Wilson and Edward Duncan, the three Negroes, it was reported.

Officer Skiba, who for twenty years was a resident of South Chicago and a popular member of the police force, was killed Monday night, and his partner, Joseph Lamb, wounded when they attempted to apprehend the robbers of the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Store and Frank Lodi's butcher shop, both in South Chicago.

SUSPECT CONFESSES HELPED TO KILL GIRL

Negro Admits Part in Wilson Holdup Near Cairo.

CAIRO, Ill., July 26.—Hess Conners, a negro arrested here last night, confessed today, officers said, that he participated with Fred Hale, another Cairo negro, in the holdup at Villa Ridge last Monday night in which Miss Daisy Wilson, 18, was slain and her father, J. C. Wilson, was severely beaten.

Hale was one of three negroes whose threatened lynching late Tuesday night resulted in the calling of Illinois National Guardsmen. Neighbors had said they saw Hale and a companion in the vicinity of the Wilson country store the afternoon of the holdup.

After his alleged confession today Conners was rushed to the Pulaski County seat at Mound City, the scene of the previous mob demonstrations, from where he was to be taken to the secret distant jail in which the three other negroes have been held for safe keeping.

Conners' purported statement apparently exonerated Ike Brown and Arthur Jones, Memphis, Tenn., negroes, who first were threatened with lynching Tuesday morning when a mob formed in front of the city jail at Mounds, three miles west of Mound City. Brown and Jones repeatedly denied any connection with the crime.

GRAND JURY TO PROBE SLAYING OF WHITE GIRL

Authorities Know Mob Leaders After Three Negroes

MOUND CITY, ILL., July 24.—Evidence against the three negroes who were arrested as suspects in the slaying of Miss Daisy Wilson, 18, will be presented to the grand jury which convenes Monday, it was announced today.

Virtually every leader of the mob, both at the jail Tuesday night and in the pursuit of the sheriff Tuesday morning, is known, officials declared.

Becoming more doubtful that the three negroes, now in custody in a distant jail, are guilty, Sheriff Hudson today asked state and county authorities to offer rewards of $500 each for arrest and conviction of the culprits.

MOUND CITY MOB QUITS JAIL ATTACK

Quiet Restored After Effort to Lynch Negroes Suspected of Girl's Murder

MOUND CITY, ILL., July 23.—By The Associated Press.—With quiet restored here today, following last night's threatened attack on the county jail in which three negroes suspected of the murder of Daisy Wilson, pretty 18-year-old Villaridge girl, had been held, Company K, 130th Illinois Infantry, which arrived here at 1:30 a. m. from Cairo, left returned home this afternoon under orders of Colonel Frank L. Taylor, commanding.

The three negro suspects, whose presence in the jail caused a mob to gather threatening a lynching during a demonstration which lasted for five hours, are now safely held in some distant jail, according to Sheriff I. J. Hudson, of Pulaski county, upon his return here today.

The sheriff refused to name the prison in which the negroes are held. County authorities fear no further demonstration.

Miss Wilson was shot and killed early yesterday, when attempting to aid her father, J. C. Wilson, resist the attack of two negro robbers at his store in Villaridge.

Two of the negroes, who gave their names as Ike Brown and Arthur Jones of Memphis, Tenn., were arrested at Mounds, Ill., by Illinois Central authorities, and after a series of experiences in which their lives were twice threatened, were brought here. The third negro, Fred Hale of Cairo, brought here for questioning, was also taken from the jail by the sheriff when the gathering mob threatened.

Wilson has identified Brown as the negro who shot his daughter.

Cairo Negro Confesses Killing Girl in Holdup

Cairo, Ill., July 26.—[United Press.]—Hess Conners, Negro, has confessed that he and another Cairo Negro, Fred Hall, killed Daisy Wilson, 18, when they attempted to rob her father, J. C. Wilson, in their store near Villa Ridge, Monday night, authorities announced today. Conners has been hurried out of Pulaski county for fear of another lynching attempt.

PRAYERS QUIET MOB AS NEGROES ARE PUT IN JAIL

Sheriff Places Guard on Alleged Slayers of Girl.

Mounds City, Ill., July 22.—Two negroes suspected of slaying Miss Daisy Wilson, 18, in an attempted holdup of her father's store at Villa Ridge shortly after midnight, were brought to the county jail here at noon today for safekeeping.

The negroes will be lodged temporarily in the Mounds jail without

in the City Hall, they were rushed here. Sixteen armed deputies guarded the county jail.

Fearing a new outburst of mob spirit, however, Sheriff Hudson was considering taking the prisoners to a jail farther from the scene of the crime.

Sheriff Hudson warned that any effort to take the prisoners would be met by gun fire. The negroes, who were strangers in the community, denied any guilt. Officers pointed out that the suspects had not been positively identified.

An unverified report was received of the arrest of two other negro suspects on a Mobile and Ohio freight train at Humboldt, Tenn.

All persons supposed to know anything about the slaying were summoned to Mound City late today to view the suspects. A negro arrested at Cairo also was brought here for an effort at identification. A report from Tamms, Ill., in Alexander county, said two negroes answering the general description of the slayers were held there.

Officers expressed a fear late today that in the excitement this morning the real criminals may have escaped.

An open verdict was returned by the coroner's jury, which found that Miss Wilson met death from a bullet wound inflicted by an unidentified negro.

FATHER IDENTIFIES BLACKS.

Railroad Man Finds Suspects, Calls Sheriff.

Cairo, Ill., July 22.—A mob of approximately 300 men formed in Pulaski county today, apparently bent on lynching two negroes tentatively identified as the slayers of Miss Daisy Wilson, 18 years old, in an attempted holdup of her father's store near Villa Ridge shortly after midnight.

The negroes were in the custody of Sheriff Hudson, who was endeavoring to take them to safe keeping. The mob formed after the negroes virtually had been identified by the slain girl's father, J. C. Wilson, and a neighbor.

A posse of several hundred armed men under Sheriff Hudson, aided by bloodhounds brought from Water Valley, Ky., had been searching for the negroes several hours. They were found by Henry Bour, a railroad man, twelve miles north of Cairo. He summoned the sheriff.

The sheriff said a portion of his posse had been made up of Ku Klux Klan members, a large meeting having been attended just as word came of the slaying.

The Wilson country store is on the Meridian road near Villa Ridge, ten miles north of Cairo.

The mob was quieted when B. F. Moreland, a Ku Klux Klan organizer, spoke and prayed in front of the City Hall at Mounds, three miles west of here.

Seymour Welch, 50 years old, a neighbor of the Wilsons, died of excitement.

A LYNCHING IS AVERTED IN ILLINOIS

Sheriff At Mounds Rushes Three Prisoners, Suspected Of Girl's Murder, To Chester Penitentiary For Safety.

WERE NOT IDENTIFIED

Mob Wanted To Lynch Colored Men First And Take Time Afterwards To Find Who Was Guilty.

MOUND CITY, Ill., July 23.—Southern Illinois was prevented from adding to her reputation for murderous deeds last night when Sheriff Hudson rushed three Negro prisoners out the rear exit of the jail and spirited them away to the Chester penitentiary for safety. The three prisoners were suspects in the murder of 18 year old Daisy Wilson, white, who was shot and killed early yesterday in helping her father to resist two Negro robbers in his store near Villa Ridge.

According to information given by the girl's father, two Negroes called at the home of J. C. Wilson near Villa Ridge, Monday night, after his adjoining store had been closed, saying they wished to buy provisions. In the store, one drew a revolver and tried to hold up Wilson, who grappled with him. Daisy Wilson ran from the home and entered the store, where the two were struggling with her father.

The robbers threw the girl out of the store and one of them fired a shot which entered her head, causing death. The robbers escaped with a few pennies taken from the store.

Three Negroes Arrested

A pursuit by bloodhounds was without result. Yesterday morning two Negroes were arrested by railroad police at Mounds and were taken to Villa Ridge. They said they had just come from Memphis and denied

...he was from Cairo, was also arrested as a suspect.

...though the father of the girl may not identify either of the men ... a mob of hoodlums was formed ... stormed the jail, anxious to ... the men held and take the time ... rwards to prove their guilt.

Siege Lasted Five Hours

...e siege of the Pulaski County ...house and jail here lasted about ... hours last night. Shots were ... into both buildings and stones ... insults were hurled at Deputy ...riffs. An hour after the crowd ... been persuaded to disperse, ... pany arrived from Cairo.

SOLDIERS CALLED TO HALT RIOT

MOUND CITY, ILL., July 26.—Governor John Small early Wednesday morning ordered Co. K of the 130th Infantry of Cairo to mobilize and proceed by motor to Mound City, where a lynching mob of more than 3000 whites were surrounding the jail Tuesday night threatening to lynch three colored men who were accused of killing a white girl when she interfered to save her father from being robbed by them.

Sheriff L. J. Hudson of Pulaski County held the mob off with shotguns until he could spirit the men out of the back door of the jail. He then fled with them to Murphysboro. After a short rest the party left immediately for the Menard State prison.

Mob Threatens Riot.

After learning that sheriff Hudson had escaped with the prisoners, the mob assumed an ugly mood and threatened to burn down the section of the city where colored people live.

Deputy sheriffs were immediately detailed to patrol the district, and efforts were made to disperse the mob, which still congregated in the center of the town [illegible] a heavy thunderstorm [illegible] rioting and bloodshed ensue, the deputy sheriff in charge asked Adjt. Gen. Black at Springfield for state troops. When Gen. Black acquainted the governor with the situation, he immediately ordered the Cairo troops to the scene. They were to arrive there Wednesday morning.

The killing occured when the girl, Daisy Wilson was shot as she went to the aid of her father when he was being held up in his store. A posse of armed men spent several hours searching for the men with bloodhounds imported from Kentucky. Their search was fruitless.

The three prisoners were finally arrested by Illinois Central detectives. Their identity as the slayers has not yet been established.

SHERIFF SPIRITS NEGRO SUSPECTS AWAY FROM MOB

Quiet Again Reigns in Mound City.

Mound City, Ill., July 23.—With quiet restored after a hectic day and night of threatened mob rule, and with three Negro suspects, in the slaying of Miss Daisy Wilson, 18, of Villa Ridge, safe behind the walls of some distant Illinois jail, Company K of the 130th Infantry, Illinois National Guard, returned to Cairo at noon today and this town assumed its normal condition.

Sheriff Hudson returned today, but refused to give the location of the jail to which his prisoners were taken.

The troops were ordered out last night by Governor Small when a triple lynching seemed imminent. The Cairo company, comprising about ninety men, arrived at 1:30 a. m., but the mob had dispersed upon finally becoming convinced the Negroes were no longer in the county jail here.

Troops Find Only Loiterers.

Only a few loiterers were found in the streets. The troops took charge of the city and no further trouble occurred.

No arrests had been made and, with the exception of lights shot out by the more demonstrative members of the mob, no destruction had been done.

Officers today were still in doubt as to whether any of the three Negroes in cstudy participated in the holdup of the Wilson country store in which Miss Wilson was slain and her father, J. C. Wilson, severely beaten.

Identification Lacking.

"Yes, I believe he is the Negro, but I can't swear to it," said Wilson yesterday when he viewed Ike Brown of Memphis, Tenn., suspected of having fired the fatal shot. Brown's companions gave the names of Arthur Jones of Memphis, and Fred Hale of Cairo.

Railroad officials today said two Negroes answering the description of Brown and Jones arrived at Mounds on a northbound freight train at 1 a. m. yesterday, some two hours after the shooting. This would tend to establish an alibi.

Not at Penitentiary.

Menard, Ill., July 23.—Officials of the Southern Illinois penitentiary here todap denied a report that Sheriff Hudson of Pulaski county had brought three Negroes to the prison for safekeeping. The sheriff's party left Murphysboro at 10:30 o'clock last night with the penitentiary as their announced destination.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
JULY 22 1924

MOB IN ILLINOIS FORMS TO LYNCH NEGRO SLAYERS

Action Follows Murder of Young Woman During a Store Holdup.

CAIRO, Ill., July 22.—A mob of approximately 300 men formed in Pulaski county to-day, apparently bent on lynching two negroes tentatively identified as the slayers of Daisy Wilson, 18, in an attempted holdup of her father's store near Mounds soon after midnight.

The negroes were in the custody of Sheriff I. J. Hudson, who was endeavoring to take them to a place for safekeeping. The mob formed after the negroes had been identified by the slain girl's father, J. C. Wilson, and a neighbor.

A posse of several hundred armed men, aided by bloodhounds, had been searching for the negroes several hours. They were found, however, by Henry Bour, a railroad man, near tracks twelve miles north of Cairo. He summoned the sheriff. Seymour Welch, 50, a neighbor of the Wilsons, died of excitement.

The negroes are said to have arrived at Mounds yesterday. They called Wilson from his home to open the store on the plea that they wanted provisions. One of the negroes drew a revolver and the two sought to hold up the storekeeper. Wilson grappled with them. His daughter, hearing the struggle, came to his assistance. A shot was fired and the young woman fell mortally wounded. The bullet struck her in the head. The negroes escaped, leaving Wilson severely beaten.

ILLINOIS GUARD TROOPS CALLED OUT TO DISPERSE ILLINOIS MOB

Crowds Threaten Trouble for Three Negroes Held for Slaying 18 Year Old White Girl at Villa Ridge; County Authorities Safely Remove Prisoners

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. July 22.—Governor Small tonight ordered company K. 130th infantry of Cairo to mobilize immediately and proceed to Mound City under command of Captain William Greane.

MOUND CITY, Ill., July 22.—Three negroes held here in connection with the murder early this morning at Villa Ridge, Ill., of Daisy Wilson, 18 year old girl, were taken from the Pulaski county jail late tonight by Sheriff I. J. Hudson when crowds gathered about the jail and threatened trouble.

The prisoners were led from the back door of the sheriff's home which adjoins the jail and driven away in an automobile.

Despite thunderstorms the crowd continue to congregate about the court house and jail in which deputies armed with riot guns were stationed.

When informed by the deputies stationed in the jail that the negroes had been removed to parts unknown by Sheriff Hudson the crowd hooted the statement and continued their demands for the prisoners immediate release.

Stirred by repeated assertions by J. C. Wilson, father of the slain girl, that he positively identified the three negroes as the assailants the crowd became hostile and made a sally for the jail. Several shots were fired but no one was injured.

The mob persistently refused to disperse and continued their aggressive attitude many displaying revolvers.

Fearful lest serious rioting and bloodshed result the chief deputy in charge made repeated attempts to reach Adjutant General Black at Springfield, Ill, that a request for state troops might be made.

The crowd tonight gathered following reports received here from Mounds that forces were gathering there to storm the county jail. Though these reports proved erroneous the crowd refused to disperse.

MURPHYSBORO, ILL., July 22.—Sheriff I. J. Hudson of Pulaski county, accompanied by several deputies arrived here about 10 o'clock tonight from Mound City, Ill. with three negroes arrested in connection with the murder of Daisy Wilson, 18 year old Villa Ridge girl. The party left immediately for Menard Ill., on the advice of local authorities.

Lynchings—1924
Prevented.

Illinois.

1666

LYNCHING IS AVERTED WHEN PRISONERS ARE TAKEN TO ANOTHER CITY

Mound City, Ill., July 25.—Three men, two of whom are said to be from Memphis and one from Cairo, who were arrested as suspects in the murder of Daisy Wilson (white) of Villa Ridge, and whose lives were threatened by a mob here and at Mounds, were led to safety behind the walls of the Illinois state penitentiary at Menard on Wednesday morning.

As a result of the demonstrations, Governor Small ordered Company K, 130th Illinois infantry, to proceed here to assist [illegible] order.

The crime for which they were held was the holding up of the store of I. C. Wilson, who was said to have been severely beaten last Monday night at Villa Ridge, by two unidentified men and the shooting of his daughter, who came to the rescue of her father, by one of [illegible].

A posse of several hundred men scoured the surrounding neighborhood all day Tuesday, but no trace of the slayers could be found. A score of men were arrested and released with the exception of one man, who was held for further questioning. Two men were also taken into custody by Illinois Central detectives. These three formed the objective of the angry mob, which wildly stormed two jails, bent on lynching the men.

The father of the girl was unable to identify either of the men as the girl's slayer, but the rowdy gang paid no attention to this and continued their mad cries for the men, who were held as suspects.

All during the day the search for the slayers continued. An inquest was held, at which time a large number of men were questioned, but the mystery of the shooting of the girl and the beating of her father remained unsolved. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of death at the hands of an unidentified man.

While this was going on, the crowd was gradually increasing as the news traveled swiftly through this section. The father of the girl, who had formerly been unable to identify either of the men, in an effort to satisfy the mad desires of the blood-thirsty mob, declared that one of the men, who gave his name as Ike Brown of Memphis, was the perpetrator of the crime. This declaration ignited the burning fury of the mob, which became more bent on seizing the men from the authorities.

At the local jail, the sheriff deputized a score of men, ordering them to shot to kill if any attempt was made upon the lives of the men, who were held as prisoners. The rowdies, who came over in automobiles from Mounds, crowded around the jail, demanding the prisoner, but made no desperate attempt to capture him.

The mob, first forming at Villa Ridge, increased its number in Mounds when the sheriff brought the two men to the Mounds jail, fearing violence. When the angry crowd became more determined the sheriff again spirited them away to Mound City, accompanied by several Race men, who were aiding the sheriff in guarding the prisoners and upholding the law. When the mob saw this armed guard of Race men, it immediately began to lose strength and in a short while many of the crowd had vanished. Later, under the same guard, the suspects were conveyed to the state penitentiary.

Chester, Ill., July 25.—Sheriff I. J. Hudson arrived here early Wednesday morning with two suspects in connection with the murder of Daisy Wilson at Villa Ridge on Monday and placed the men in the state penitentiary as a final resort for their safekeeping. The men were spirited away from Mounds and later from Mound City and were finally brought here. The sheriff and his guard with the two men passed through Murphysboro shortly before midnight on Tuesday.

NEW YORK CITY TRIBUNE
JULY 23, 1924

Klan Organizer Halts Lynching Of Two Negroes

Prays Before Illinois City Hall as Mob Prepares to

Slay Men Suspected of Killing Girl in Hold-Up

Sheriff's Car Is Chased

Father Identifies Pair as Bandits; Neighbor, 50, Dies of Excitement

MOUNDS CITY, Ill., July 22.—Two negroes, suspected of slaying Daisy Wilson, eighteen years old, in an attempted hold-up of her father's store at Villa Ridge soon after midnight, were brought to the jail here to-day for safekeeping.

A mob of several hundred men, apparently intent on a lynching, was quieted when H. F. Moreland, a Ku-Klux Klan organizer, spoke and prayed in front of the City Hall at Mounds, three miles west of here. Several in the crowd were deputized by Sheriff I. J. Hudson to guard the prisoners. The negroes, who had been lodged temporarily in the Mounds jail within the City Hall, then were rushed here. Sixteen armed deputies were placed as a guard around the county jail.

Sheriff's Car Chased

The mob formed first at Villa Ridge and gained in numbers as it chased the automobile containing Sheriff Hudson and his prisoners. Finally Hudson succeeded in reaching Mounds and placing the negroes in jail.

The suspects had been arrested at 7 o'clock this morning at Mounds and taken to Villa Ridge for identification. At first the slain girl's father, J. H. Wilson, was not certain that the negroes were the assailants. He became more positive in his identification, however, when a neighbor said they were the same negroes he had seen loitering in the vicinity yesterday.

The negroes are said to have arrived at Mounds yesterday. They called Wilson from his home to open the store on the plea that they wanted provisions.

Daughter Comes to Rescue

One of the negroes drew a revolver and the two sought to hold up the storekeeper. Wilson grappled with them. His daughter, hearing the struggle, came to his assistance. A shot was fired, and the young woman fell mortally wounded. The bullet struck her in the head. The negroes escaped, leaving Wilson severely beaten. Seymour Welch, fifty years old, a neighbor of the Wilsons, died of excitement.

The Sheriff said a portion of his posse had been made up of Ku-Klux Klan members, a large Klan meeting having ended just as word came of the slaying. A coroner's verdict of homicide, holding the negroes responsible as slayer and accessory, was returned to-day.

SAY NEGRO ADMITS MURDER.

Cairo (Ill.) Police Clear Up the Killing of a Young White Girl.

CAIRO, Ill., July 26.—Hale Conners, a negro, arrested here last night, confessed today, officers said, that he participated with Fred Hale, another Cairo negro, in the hold-up at Villa Ridge last Monday night in which Miss Daisy Wilson, 18 years old, was slain and her father, J. C. Wilson, was severely beaten.

Conners's purported statement apparently exonerated Ike Brown and Arthur Jones, Memphis, Tenn., negroes, who first were threatened with lynching on Tuesday. They denied any connection with the crime.

Hale was one of three negroes whose threatened lynching last Tuesday night resulted in the calling of a company of Illinois National Guardsmen. Neighbors had said they saw Hale and a companion in the vicinity of the Wilson country store the afternoon before the hold-up.

After his alleged confession today Conners was rushed to the Pulaski County seat at Mound City, the scene of the previous mob demonstrations. From there he was to be taken to the secret district jail, where three other negroes have been held for safekeeping.

NEGROES REMOVED FOR FEAR OF MOB

Springfield, Ill., July 22.—Governor Small tonight ordered Company K, 130th infantry of Cario, to mobilize immediately and proceed to Mound City under command of Captain William Green.

Mound City, Ill., July 22.—Two negroes held here in connection with the murder early this morning at Villa Ridge, Ill., of Daisy Wilson, 18-year-old girl, were taken from the Pulaski county jail late tonight by Sheriff I. J. Hudson, when crowds gathering about the jail threatened trouble. It is believed the negroes were taken to Murphysboro.

The prisoners were led from the back door of the sheriff's home which adjoins the jail and driven away in an automobile.

Despite thunderstorms, the crowds continue to congregate about the courthouse and jail in which deputies armed with riot guns were stationed.

A demonstration at Mounds, Ill., where the negroes were taken following their arrest today, for a time threatened serious trouble.

The crowds tonight started gathering following reports received here from Mounds that forces were gathering there to storm the county jail. Though these reports proved erroneous the crowd refused to disperse.

The negroes are said to have arrived at Mounds yesterday. They called Wilson from his home to open the store on the plea that they wanted provisions.

One of the negroes drew a revolver and the two sought to hold up the storekeeper. Wilson grappled with them. His daughter, hearing the struggle, came to his assistance. A shot was fired and the young woman fell mortally wounded. The bullet struck her in the head. The negroes escaped, leaving Wilson severely beaten.

Suspects Are Viewed.

All persons supposed to know anything about the slaying were summoned to Mound City today to view the suspects. A negro arrested at Cairo also was brought here for an effort at identification. A report from Tamms, Ill., in Alexander county, said two negroes answering the general description of the slayers were held there.

Officers expressed a fear late today that in the excitement this morning the real criminals may have escaped.

An open verdict was returned by the coroner's jury, which found that Miss Wilson met death from a bullet wound inflicted by an unidentified negro.

Mob Chases Car.

The mob formed first at Villa Ridge and rapidly gained in numbers as it chased the motor car containing Sheriff Hudson and his prisoners over a wide territory. Finally, Hudson succeeded in reaching Mounds and placing the negroes in the city jail.

The suspects had been arrested at 7 o'clock this morning by Illinois Central special agents at Mounds and taken to Villa Ridge for identification.

At first the slain girl's father, J. H. Wilson, who himself was severely beaten, was not certain that the negroes were the assailants. He became more positive in his identification, however, when a neighbor said they were the same negroes he had seen loitering in the vicinity yesterday.

Negroes Deny Guilt.

Sheriff Hudson warned that any effort to take the prisoners would be met by gun fire. The negroes, who were strangers in the community, denied any guilt. Officers pointed out that the suspects had not been positively identified.

An unverified report was received of the arrest of two other negro suspects on a Mobile and Ohio freight train at Humboldt, Tenn.

Lynchings — 1924
Prevented.

Iowa.

1667

FEAR LYNCHING OF MAN ACCUSED OF SLAYING WIFE

West Union, Ia., July 27.—[Special.]—Austin May, 34, accused of killing his bride of five weeks at Oelwein Friday midnight, was lodged in jail here early today to prevent possible mob violence. The feeling is intense against May who, state agents say, fired six shots through a glass door at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Goldsmith where his wife was sitting up with a sick woman. Two of the shots took effect.

7-28-24

A revolver was found in the weeds today, two blocks from the scene of the crime and two blocks from May's home. It was the same size weapon with which the woman was killed but it was fully loaded and state agents were uncertain whether it recently had been fired.

The coroner's jury has accused May of the crime. He continues to deny it. Jealousy is believed to have been the motive. They had been separated [illegible] weeks.

Lynchings—1924
Prevented.

Kentucky.

1668

TROOPS ARE SENT TO SAVE ACCUSED NEGRO FROM MOB

Black Is Tried for Murder of Man Impersonating Santa Claus.

Bowling Green, Ky., Jan. 24.—Major Cooper R. Smith and fifty members of the local company of National Guardsmen were ordered by Governor Fields at Frankfort today to entrain at 2 o'clock this afternoon for Glasgow, about thirty miles east of here, to prevent a possible occurrence of mob violence against Will Chambers, negro, who is confined in the county jail there, and who is on trial on a charge of murdering Charles Bybee near Glasgow December 21, last.

The local troops will be joined here by twenty-five members of the Fifty-fourth machine gun squadron from Hopkinsville, and twenty-five machine gunners from Company M, 149th Infantry, of Russellville, Major Smith announced later.

Selection of a jury for the trial of Chambers, which had been in progress all week, was completed shortly before noon today, according to word reaching here.

Bybee, a federal student at the Western Kentucky State Normal school here, started to deliver Christmas presents and was reported missing soon after. His body was found in a creek six miles from Glasgow about ten days afterwards with three bullet wounds in it and pockets of his clothes rifled.

Chambers was arrested before the body was found when some of Bybee's Christmas presents were discovered in his home. A mob of several hundred people gathered at the county jail at Glasgow the day Bybee's body was found, intent upon taking the negro from the jail. The sheriff, succeeded in getting Chambers out of the jail and took him to Louisville for safe keeping, outdistancing more than fifty man who followed them in automobiles.

Chambers was returned to Glasgow early this week for trial and there has been continual rumor of lynching him. If convicted, or if not convicted, and the negro does not receive the death sentence, rumor here has it that friends of Bybee will lynch the negro.

James Bybee, father of the murdered man, has asked continually that the law be permitted to take its course.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
JANUARY 24, 1924

Kentucky Governor Sends Troops to Guard Negro

Bowling Green, Ky., Jan. 24.—Major Cooper R. Smith and fifty members of the local company of National Guardsmen were ordered by Gov. W. J. Fields at Frankfort to-day to entrain at 2 o'clock this afternoon for Glasgow, about thirty miles east of here, to prevent a possible occurrence of mob violence against Will Chambers, a negro, who is confined in the county jail there and who is on trial on a charge of murdering Charles Bybee near Glasgow on December 21, last.

The local troops will be joined here by twenty-five members of the Fifty-fourth Machine Gun Squadron from Hopkinsville, and twenty-five machine gunners from Company M, 149th Infantry, of Russellville, Major Smith announced later.

N. Y. C. EVENING WORLD
JANUARY 24, 1924

Kentucky Governor Orders Troops to Guard Negro

BOWLING, Ky., Jan. 24.—National Guardsmen were ordered by Gov. W. J. Fields to-day to entrain at 2 o'clock for Glasgow, about thirty miles east of here, to prevent possible mob violence against Will Chambers, Negro, who is confined in the County Jail there on a charge of murdering Charles Bybee Dec. 21.

NEW YORK CITY MAIL
JANUARY 25, 1924

KENTUCKY LYNCHING EMERGENCY OVER

Death Sentence for Negro Allays Excitement.

Glasgow, Ky., Today.—With William Chambers, negro, convicted of the murder of Charles Bybee, of Bowling Green, sentenced to death and date for his electrocution set for March 7, an apparent emergency which resulted in the hasty concentration of 100 National Guardsmen here had passed today.

The troops arrived late yesterday from Bowling Green, Hopkinsville and Russellville after officials became alarmed for fear mob violence might interrupt Chambers's trial.

A short time later the negro confessed to having slain Bybee, claiming that he believed he was shooting an enemy. Bybees' automobile had been found in Chambers's possession.

The jury returned a verdict after deliberating sixteen minutes, sentence was pronounced and Chambers was started to the State prison, where electrocutions are held under guard.

MOB FEAR URGES KENTUCKY SHERIFF TO REMOVE 18-YEAR-OLD NEGRO BOY FROM LEXINGTON JAIL FOR SAFETY

(Commonwealth News Service)

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 22.—Following a partial confession of his participation in the murder and robbery of George J. Pierson, aged and crippled postmaster and merchant at Greendale, Joe Baughman, 18-year-old Negro, paroled inmate of State Reform School, was taken from the County Jail last week by Sheriff Powell Bosworth and spirited away in an automobile to another town for safekeeping. Authorities declined to say where he was taken, but reports say Frankfort.

Frankfort authorities, however, denied tonight that Baughman had been taken there.

2-22-24

This action was decided on as a precautionary measure after a conference between Sheriff Bosworth and County Judge Doak, who learned earlier in the day that citizens of the Greendale section, where the crime was committed, had been heard to indulge in threats and to openly declare "short work should be made of the Negro."

Their mutterings became more pronounced as relatives and friends of the murdered postmaster loitered about the lobby of the Court House while the accused was in the Sheriff's office. Later, when it was learned he had made a partial confession and had accompanied officers to the scene of the crime and aided them in locating the rifle with which the murder was committed, feeling against the accused began to crystallize, and to avoid mob violence it was decided to remove the prisoner at once.

Names Another Negro

When brought to the Sheriff's office shortly after noon Baughman retracted a former statement that he was in Danville the night of the murder and admitted, according to Sheriff Bosworth, he was "with another fellow that did kill him."

Baughman asserted the man who was a Negro named [illegible] know his other [illegible] believe this a blind Baughman himself committed the crime, since he was seen at [illegible]rson's store about dark on the [illegible]ght the crime was committed.

Accompanied by the Negro, Sheriff Bosworth and Deputy Sheriff Brumfield went to the scene of the murder this afternoon and recovered the missing rifle after the accused had pointed out a secluded place overgrown with weeds, where he said the "other Negro" threw the gun. The rifle was broken into three parts, Baughman explaining the "other Negro" told him he had broken the barrel from the stock.

Mr. Pierson was buried at 3 o'clock this afternoon, and it was while the funeral was in progress his alleged murder was spirited away.

Louisville, Ky
FEB 14 1924
Courier Journal

FEAR OF MOB FORCES REMOVAL

Authorities Take Greendale Negro to Other Town for Safety.

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 13.—Following a partial confession of his participation Monday night in murder and robbery of George J. Pierson, aged and crippled postmaster and merchant at Greendale, Joe Baughman, 18-year-old negro, paroled inmate of State Reform School, was taken from the County Jail this afternoon by Sheriff Powell Bosworth and spirited away in an automobile to another town for safe keeping. Authorities declined to say where he was taken, but reports say Frankfort.

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Baughman asserted the man who killed Mr. Pierson was a negro named "James," but didn't know his other name.

Authorities here believe this a blind and that Baughman himself committed the crime, since he was seen at Pierson's store about dark on the night the crime was committed.

Accompanied by the negro, Sheriff Bosworth and Deputy Sheriff Brumfield went to the scene of the murder ing rifle after the accused had pointed this afternoon and recovered the miss- out a secluded place overgrown with weeds, where he said the "other negro" threw the gun. The rifle was broken into three parts, Baughman explaining the "other negro" told him before he threw the rifle away that he had broken the barrel from the stock.

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1668

1668

Lynchings—1924.

Prevented 6

Louisiana.

1669

BLACK ASSAILANT TAKEN TO CAPITAL FOR SAFE KEEPING

Bloody Ax Used in Attack on Man and Woman Found.

Alexandria, La., Dec. 31.—Milton King, a negro, alleged to have attacked a man and a woman with an ax on the Ranides bayou road Saturday night, was being held in a jail at Baton Rouge for safekeeping today. Sheriff David rushed the negro out of the parish after making an investigation of the attack.

J. M. Hawkins of Lake Charles, a traveling salesman, is in a local hospital in a serious condition. The blow delivered by a negro through the glass window of the automobile in which Hawkins and his companion were seated struck him on the back of his neck. Physicians believe his head might have been severed if the glass window had been open.

Mrs. Cora Lee Rives, proprietor of a local beauty parlor, Hawkin's companion, successfully fought and escaped from the negro.

Hawkins and Mrs. Rives, with their automobile bogged in the mud, were awaiting help a negro had promised to send. The negro asked Hawkins for a cigarette before using the ax. Three other negroes were arrested as material witnesses. Parish officers said the bloody ax had been found. King, the officers said, admitted serving a term in the state penitentiary.

SLAIN PLANTER'S FRIENDS DISOWN TRIANGLE THEORY

Alleged Murderer Taken to Shreveport as Mob Was Feared.

Shreveport, La., Sept. 25.—L. Curt Hughes, 48 years old, alleged slayer of W. Buford Butler, 34, a leading Red River parish planter and road contractor, was brought here this morning from Coushatta for safekeeping. Mob violence was feared by Red River parish officers, if the [illegible] kept at Coushatta, it was [illegible]

Friends of Butler, in long distance messages today, scouted the theory that Hughes killed Butler over alleged attentions to Mrs. Hughes. They said Hughes became incensed over a report administered to one of Hughes' sons by Butler over his treatment of a team of mules last Saturday. They also declared they believe Butler was waylaid as his car, which was found in the ditch by the roadside, was in high gear and the switch was on. The three shots that killed the man also came through the windshield, they claimed.

Mrs. Huges, they said, claimed the alleged insult of Butler was made last Monday. Butler's friends declared he was in Coushatta throughout the day. 9-26-24

Affidavits showing that Butler was in Coushatta throughout Monday and at the time Mrs. Hughes claims she was insulted can be produced, Butler's friends asserted. It is claimed by Butler's family that Hughes called at Butler's home about thirty minutes before the killing and asked Mrs. Butler when her husband would return home after a previous query had given him the information that Butler was in Shreveport.

Mrs. Butler is reported to have told Hughes that Butler was due back in a short time. Hughes it is claimed, then turned and walked away. He was not armed during this conversation, it is said.

Butler was shot three times, one of the bullets entering his temple and two entering his body. Butler leaves a wife and five children, Hughes and his wife have several children. The funeral will be held at 2 p. m., Friday from the family home near Crichton with interment in the Coushatta cemetery.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

Maryland.

1670

BALTIMORE MD. NEWS
NOVEMBER 21 1924

LYNCHING AVERTED BY QUICK ACTION

Negro Brought to Baltimore Jail When Evidence Links Him With Murder.

Demands for an early session of a special Grand Jury to expedite trial of Isaiah Butler, Leonardtown negro, charged with the murder of Joseph H. Ching, politician and attorney; detention of Butler in the Baltimore City Jail, where he was rushed last night to avert a lynching, and new links in the chain of evidence against the negro are high lights in the sensational murder case.

As the last clods of earth fell into the grave of the politician, whispers of possible violence began to circulate through the crowd of mourners.

THREATS ARE MADE

These became open threats when it was learned Butler and John Lewis Milburn, both negroes, had been held for the Grand Jury on evidence seeming to link them positively with the crime.

Late in the afternoon it became apparent the Leonardtown jail was not strong enough to guarantee the safety of the prisoner and at 5 o'clock a speedy automobile was requisitioned.

Guarded by Deputy Sheriff Robert A. Clark, two other deputies and two Washington detectives, all armed with riot guns, Butler was hurried from the jail, placed in the automobile and spirited out of town.

PUT IN JAIL HERE

Four hours later the negro, cowed and trembling, was in a cell in the Baltimore City Jail, where he will be kept until all possibility of mob violence is over.

Meanwhile county authorities announce they will go before Judge William Mevell Loker, associate judge of the Seventh Judicial district, and ask that a special session of the Grand Jury be called to complete the charges against Butler and insure a speedy trial.

State's Attorney John H. P. Briscoe has agreed to the program and will indorse the request.

TOWN IS PASSIVE

Leonardtown, despite the brutality of the murder, remained fairly passive until yesterday's preliminary hearing of the case against Butler.

Then as witness after witness told of a quarrel between Attorney Ching and Butler in the home of the octoroon woman, Edna Thompson, and of Butler's offer of $50 to John Lewis Milburn to kill Ching, threats of violence became open.

Three witneses testified to these statements. They were Arthur Thompson, husband of the colored school teacher, Edna Thompson; the woman herself, and Arthur Lee Thompson, their 14-year-old son.

WARNED VICTIM

Each testified that Butler, during the argument, shouted:

"You stay with your own race!"

To this Ching is alleged to have responded:

"You stay on your own side of the street or I will sell your place over there."

This, witnesses said, referred to a piece of property owned by Ching opposite the Thompson home and occupied by Butler. To this threat Butler is said to have replied:

"You'll not live long enough to sell my place."

QUARRELED IN HOUSE

Thompson testified that Ching had spent the evening in the Thompson home in the negro quarter, and that Ching and Butler quarreled on the stairway leading to the second floor.

Subsequently, while Ching was in a front room, according to the testimony of Edna Thompson, Butler was offering Milburn $50 to kill Ching, pressing the money and an automatic pistol into his hands. The money and pistol, Milburn testified, were left on a dresser in the room.

The woman's daughter also testified she was in the room and heard the conversation. The three witnesses were held in $200 bonds for Butler's trial.

NEGRO CAPTURED.

PRINCESS ANNE, MD., Dec. 15.—Harry Merrill, negro, was captured near here today after a search which has been in progress since Saturday, when the negro is alleged to have shot and killed Warden Lewis S. Dryden of the Somerset county jail, and seriously wounded Constable Orrie J. Carey, while resisting arrest. To avert possible trouble, Merrill was taken to the jail at Salisbury, where a guard was stationed to protect him.

NEGRO SLAYER CAPTURED.

Maryland Officials Guard Black From Mob Violence.

PRINCESS ANNE, Md., Dec. 15.—Harry Merrill, a negro who shot and killed Warden Lewis Dryden, of the Somerset County jail and seriously wounded Deputy Sheriff Orie Carey, was captured today at the home of [illegible] near Princess Anne.

Lynchings — 1924
Prevented.

Minnesota.

167

MINNEAPOLIS MORN TRIB
APRIL 9, 1924

St. Paul Mu[illegible] Suspect Ri[illegible] to Minneap[illegible]s

Negro Brought Here Secretly to Save Him From Possible Mob Violence.

Alleged Slayer Identified by Nine-Year-Old Son of Victim.

Two Other Women Declare He Is Man Who Attacked Them.

Roy P. Houghton, 23-year-old Negro identfied as the slayer of Mrs. Jacob Mogul, St. Paul woman attacked and killed on the night of March 28, was taken secretly from St. Paul police headquarters Tuesday night and rushed to Minneapolis to save him from possible mob violence.

Houghton was identified as the assailant of Mrs. Mogul by her son, Leo, 9 years old, who witnessed the murder, according to Capt. Herman Vall of the St. Paul police. He was identified also by Mrs. E. M. Molitor, 830 Sherburne avenue, St. Paul, and Mrs. Robert Topel, 162 North Kent street, St. Paul, as a Negro who had attacked them.

Attacked on Night of Murder.

Mrs. Molter declared Houghton was the man with whom she struggled and beat off on the night Mrs. Mogul was murdered.

Late Tuesday night all attempts to obtain information as to the whereabouts of the alleged murderer from Minneapolis or St. Paul police were rewarded with the replies that the information could not be given.

Each police official approached declared he knew nothing of the case, except Captain Vall, who admitted having grilled the Negro for several hours.

Crowds Form in St. Paul.

First intimation that an attempt might be made to take the Negro from St. Paul police headquarters came early Tuesday night, when news spread in St. Paul that Houghton had been arrested. The report that he had been identified as the slayer added to the feeling against him. Crowds formed near the St. Paul police headquarters soon after Houghton's arrest, but there was no disturbance, and apparently no organized move to interfere with the ordinary proced-

Rushed to Minneapolis.

A few hours after Houghton had been in jail, however, and after he had been under bombardment of questions as to his whereabouts on the night of the murder, plans were being made to defeat any raid on the jail. Guarded by four St. Paul detectives, the Negro was led to an automobile and with the car in charge of Captain Vall the trip to Minneapolis was hurriedly made.

When the party reached the Minneapolis headquarters there was little delay in transferring the prisoner to a cell, but no record was made.

Taken to Scene of Crime.

Captain Vall announced that Houghton had been questioned and that later he had been taken to the scene of the crime, an alley off Iglehart avenue, near St. Albans street, St. Paul.

Mrs. Mogul was dragged into this alley while returning from a visit to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Friedman, 711 Carroll avenue, St. Paul, with her son. As they approached the alley a Negro stepped out of the shadows, drew a gun and ordered Mrs. Mogul to accompany him. As she tried to escape she was seized by her assailant.

She offered her purse, but it was seized and thrown to the ground. Then she offered her fur coat. The Negro spurned this, and continued to drag her into the alley.

The boy was struck down when he went to the rescue of his mother, and he ran screaming for help. He stopped the driver of an automobile and as they were returning the Negro leaped to his feet, fired twice at his victim, and fled.

Mrs. Mogul was killed instantly, one bullet striking her heart. Pursued by the motorist and the boy, the murderer escaped down the alley.

Picked Up as Suspect.

Search for the killer was continued until Tuesday morning, when Houghton was picked up as a suspect. Mrs. Molitor, who had been attacked by a Negro a few minutes before the attack on Mrs. Mogul, was brought to police headquarters, and, according to Capt. Vall, identified Houghton as her assailant. It was announced that the Negro's clothing helped in this identification. Mrs. Molitor, who was accompanied by her husband, fainted after seeing the prisoner, and was taken to her home in a highly nervous condition.

Second Woman Identifies.

The identification by Mrs. Topel of the prisoner as the man who had stabbed her when she fought against an attack on March 9 follow[illegible].

Houghton gave his address as 427 University avenue, St. Paul. He is reported to have steadfastly denied any connection with the murder. He was to be given an opportunity to establish his innocence by fixing his movements on the night of the murder, police announced.

Lynchings—1924
Prevented.

Mississippi.

1676

NEGRO REMOVED AS VICTIM DIES

Young Man Shot in Row Over Bill for Wood at Tupelo.

Tupelo, Miss., March 5.—Mitchell Morgan, 20 years old, who was shot in the negro section of this city Saturday afternoon, died last night in the Tupelo hospital and Flint Ashby, 21, a negro, alleged to have done the shooting, has been taken to a jail elsewhere for safekeeping.

Morgan had sold some wood and just prior to the shooting was trying to collect from Ashby for the wood. Ashby became angry and shot Morgan in the abdomen at close range, it is alleged. The negro then went east for about half a mile to Town Creek bottom where he slipped into the channel and attempted to escape by wading through the water.

A posse tracked the negro through the soft earth to the channel. From there they went downstream and captured Ashby hiding under a bank. The negro had just recently returned from Chicago where he went last year. Talk of mob violence led to his being spirited away from Tupelo.

WAYS BLUFF TRAGEDY

Two Negroes Taken to Jackson After Killing White Man.

JACKSON, Miss., March 2.—Bob and Will Hunter, negroes, charged with the killing of R. B. Tisdale, a white farmer, at Ways Bluff, north of Canton, Saturday, have been lodged in the county jail here for safekeeping. Bob Hunter, the father, according to officers making the arrest, had an altercation with Mr. Tisdale, in which, the negroes claim, Tisdale struck the elder Hunter with a stick of wood. The son took up the shotgun and shot Tisdale to death. Tisdale had a wife and two children and feeling is strong against the negroes in the vicinity of the tragedy. A preliminary hearing of the negroes will be arranged for early this week.

MOB VIOLENCE THREATENED FOR NEGRO UNDER CHARGE

Prisoner Held in Mississippi Jail Made Indecent Proposal to Woman

HATTIESBURG, MISS., May 13.—The authorities here tonight said there was a possibility that Leon Ulmer, the Lamar county negro in jail at Purvis would be brought here for safe keeping as a result of an attempt to take the negro from the prison early today. Ulmer, it was reported at Poplarville, where he was arrested last night, made an indecent proposal to a white woman in connection with an offer of assistance to make bond for her husband, who was in the Poplarville jail. The woman reported the occurrence to the police.

Sheriff W. L. Magee was awakened at his home shortly before 2 o'clock this morning by six men who demanded that he give them the keys to the jail or accompany them and hand over the negro. The sheriff refused and upon the departure of his visitors rushed to the home of N. M. Holcomb, his chief deputy. Accompanied by the deputy he proceeded to the jail to find it surrounded by a mob of about thirty men. The mob fled behind buildings across the street, but later sent six armed men to the sheriff to discuss the situation. The sheriff covered the sextette with a pistol and his deputy disarmed them. They were permitted to depart and with their companions left the scene.

SHERIFF AND DEPUTY HOLD OFF ARMED MOB

Six of Members Disarmed in Raid on Jail.

SOUGHT TO LYNCH NEGRO

Sheriff W. L. Magee of Lamar County and Deputy N. M. Holcomb Move Negro to Safety. Former, Unarmed, Refused to Surrender Keys.

HATTIESBURG, Miss., May 13.—An early morning attempt at a jail delivery at Purvis was frustrated today by Sheriff W. L. Magee of Lamar County, who, with his chief deputy, W. L. Holcombe, dispersed a mob estimated at more than 30 men, disarming several of them.

Cringing in a darkened cell in the Lamar County Jail, whither he had been brought from Lumberton last night for safe keeping, was Leon Ulmer, a negro, 25 years old, who is charged with attempted assault on a Lumberton woman. Tonight he was brought to Hattiesburg.

Ulmer and the other prisoners in the jail could hear the voices of the mob which had surrounded the building a few minutes before the arrival of Sheriff Magee and Deputy Holcomb. They could hear the plans of the men to take Ulmer from the prison and lynch him.

Shortly before 2 o'clock this morning six men appeared at the home of Sheriff Magee in Purvis, and demanded the keys to the jail. The spokesman informed the official that the men already were in possession of one of the keys. They said they did not want to batter down any of the doors, but that if this were necessary they could do so.

The sheriff defiantly refused, despite the fact that he was unarmed at the time. He told the men that he would not grant their demands and that he would defend the jail and the Lumberton prisoner with his life.

The half dozen disappeared in the darkness. Hastily drawing on his clothes, the sheriff ran for half a mile to the home of Holcomb, awakened his deputy, and the pair, armed to the teeth, started for the jail, when the officers arrived, a majority of the members of the band disappeared across the street, and stationed themselves behind a barber shop. Again the leaders demanded that the sheriff either turn over to them the negro, or he must suffer the consequences.

He again refused. The spokesman returned to the crowd behind the barber shop, but later returned and wanted a second parley. This was refused. He ordered each man to throw up his hands, and took from the spokesman a couple of rifles, a shotgun and a large pistol.

Southern Press Clipping Bureau
CANDLER BLDG ATLANTA, GA

MAY 14 1924

MOB DISPERSED AND NEGRO SAVED

Sheriff And Deputies Disarm And Worst Angry Citizens

HATTIESBURG, Miss., May 13.—Sheriff W. L. Magee and his chief deputy, N. M. Holcomb, early today worsted a mob of 30 men bent upon removing from the jail at Purvis a negro held for having made alleged improper proposals to a white woman at Lumberton.

The officers disarmed six members of the mob.

The attempted jail delivery occurred shortly before 2 a. m. Six men appeared at the home of the sheriff and demanded he deliver the keys to the jail or accompany them to the prison and turn over the prisoner, Leon Ulmer, to them. Magee, although he had no firearms in the house, refused. The sextet then departed in the direction of the jail. The sheriff rushed to the home of his deputy and the pair hurried to the prison to find it surrounded by more than 30 men.

With the arrival of the officers the mob disappeared behind buildings across the street, but soon sent six of their companions forward for a parley. The sheriff drew an automatic pistol and ordered them to hold up their hands. While he covered the sextet the deputy disarmed them, obtaining two rifles, a shotgun and a pistol. The would-be lynchers then dispersed.

Sheriff Magee said he could identify some of them.

ENDORSE COOLIDGE
MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 13.—

LYNCHING FEARED AFTER ALLEGED ATTACK ON GIRL

Accused by Young Stenographer, Prisoner Is Spirited from Gulfport.

Gulfport, Miss., July 13.—William Hardy Hicks, 32 years old, who says he is the owner of a sawmill near Memphis, Tenn., was spirited from Gulfport today by Sheriff Duckworth following his arrest Saturday night on a charge of criminally assaulting Miss Margaret Hughes, 17 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Deck Hughes of Gulfport. Threats of violence caused the sheriff to remove the prisoner when news of the alleged assault seeped out Sunday morning.

Hicks was arrested at a local hotel by Chief of Police Byrd and Officer Fairley late Saturday night.

According to statements made to the authorities by Miss Hughes' parents the assault occurred in the vicinity of Turkey Creek, north of Gulfport, after Miss Hughes had dined with Hicks at his hotel. The girl insisted on being taken home after dinner according to her parents, but Hicks drove with her out of Gulfport toward Turkey Creek. When they reached Turkey Creek, Miss Hughes declared, Hicks forcibly dragged her from the car, overpowered her and assaulted her, although she screamed and fought desperately. Hughes then took the girl to her home, the authorities were told, where between sobs she told her parents what had happened. Mr. Hughes immediately informed the police, and Hicks was arrested. Miss Hughes is in the care of a physician.

Hicks is said to have made the acquaintance of Mr. Hughes and his daughter a few days ago near Jackson, Miss. He cme to Gulfport about a week ago, and became a frequent caller at the Hughes home, winning the esteem and confidence of the family. When he called for Miss Hughes Saturday night he is said to have told her parents that the hotel proprietor and his wife wished to have the girl at dinner as their guest. This statement was denied by the hotel man today.

Hicks, who told the authorities he owns a sawmill near Memphis, is a stranger in Gulfport. Letters found on him show he has been recently in various parts of the country. In a statement Saturday night, he denied he had assaulted Miss Hughes and insisted he "had only been affectionate."

Miss Hughes has been working as a stenographer in a Gulfport law office, and teaching a Sunday school class in the Christian church.

Judge Graham of the circuit court said tonight that in all probability he would call a special term of the court to investigate the charges against Hicks.

Feeling against Hicks is intense in Gulfport.

1676

ATLANTA, GA. Georgian

AUG 11 1924

Police and Negro Escape From Mob

JACKSON, Miss., August — Four officers in a high-powered automobile arrived here with a negro prisoner shortly before noon Monday after escaping a mob of enraged citizens following a cross-country race of more than 50 miles.

The negro, Sam Jenkins, charged with participating in the murder of W. A. Harvey at Vicksburg Sunday, was placed in the county jail here for safekeeping. Officers said they managed to keep about 20 minutes ahead of the mob the entire distance from Vicksburg to the out

ATTACKED WHITE WOMAN.

Two Negroes Taken to the Hinds County Jail.

BROOKHAVEN, Miss., Oct. 1.—Two negroes, charged with attacking a young married woman near Allen, in Copiah County, just over the Copiah-Lincoln line, Tuesday morning, were brought to Lincoln County jail for safe keeping early Tuesday afternoon, but because the jail was already crowded and comparatively near the scene of the attack Sheriff Grice of Lincoln and Deputies Henry Ramsay and Dan Lowe of Copiah agreed that only a jail still further away would be safe. The prisoners were carried to an unannounced destination, said today to be the Hinds County jail, Jackson.

The Copiah deputies captured the negroes in a grove four miles from the scene of the crime with comparative ease and transported them in a car. They are said to have admitted their guilt to officers. One negro claimed to be from Oklahoma and the other from North Mississippi.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Banner

AUG 11 1924

NEGRO SAVED FRO[M] MOB BY OFFICE[RS]

Lodged in Jackson, M[iss.] Jail After Desperate Cross-Country Race.

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 11.—(By International News Service.)—Four officers in an automobile arrived here with a Negro prisoner shortly before noon today after escaping a mob of citizens in a cross-country race of more than fifty miles.

The Negro, Sam Jenkins, charged with participating in the murder of W. A. Harvey at Vicksburg yesterday, was placed in the county jail here for safekeeping. Officers said they managed to keep about twenty minutes ahead of the mob the entire distance from Vicksburg to the outskirts of Jackson.

Vicksburg, Miss., Aug. 11.—(By International News Service.)—A posse of heavily armed citizens sped out of Vicksburg early today in pursuit of a police car which is carrying Sam Jenkins, Negro, who is charged with murder, to Jackson for safekeeping. The police car had only a twenty-minute start when it left this city. Local authorities said they fear a lynching will result if the large crowd overtakes the prisoner's car.

Jenkins, charged with slaying W. A. Harvey, well-known Vicksburg resident, was captured this morning after a forty-eight-hour search.

Officers charged that Jenkins, with his wife, Mahala, stabbed Harvey to death Sunday. The victim, with a party of fishermen, had stopped in front of a Negro restaurant when Harvey bumped into the Negro woman.

Witnesses told officers that she used vile epithets and that Harvey raised his hand as if to strike her. He was stabbed to death in a struggle which followed. Police assert that the woman wielded the knife but charge Sam Jenkins with being an accomplice.

Both of the Negroes fled immediately after the affair and Jenkins was not captured until this morning. A posse is still searching the nearby woods for the woman.

Woman Kills White Man In Mississippi

(Preston News Service.)

Vicksburg, Miss., Aug. 21.—Miss Malinda White, a comely maiden here, probably saved her escort from being lynched when she confessed that she was the slayer of Will Harvey, white man, at Jackson.

According to reports the killing occurred Sunday morning when the woman stabbed Harvey in the stomach, when Harvey cursed her for having brushed against him in the street. It is said she then turned on the man and gave him a severe tongue lashing. It is said when Harvey attempted to box her ears, she drew a knife and stabbed him. She and her companion fled after the murder. Her companion, Samuel Jenkins, was captured Monday and was rushed by officers to Jackson with a large mob in pursuit.

Late Tuesday Miss White came out of hiding and went to the home of Grant Brown who advised her that she should give herself up, for if she were caught by the infuriate crowd she probably would be lynched. The woman agreed and Brown notifid the officers, who took the woman to Jackson for safekeeping.

On the way to Jackson Miss White told the officers how the affair happened. She admitted that she stabbed Harvey and that Samuel Jenkins had nothing to do with the affair, and that Jenkins was in the Bell cafe when the affair took place. Another story is told that the white men went to the woman and told her that she should not be in the company of that darky Sam Jenkins, and a quarrel started between the woman and Harvey resulted in Harvey's death.

WOMAN IN CONFESSION VINDICATES HER ESCORT

White Mississippian Fatally Stabbed in Abdomen by Woman He Insulted.

VICKSBURG, Miss., Aug. 18.—Miss Malinda White, a comely maiden here, probably saved her escort from being lynched when she confessed that she was the slayer of Will Harvey, white man, at Jackson.

According to reports the killing occurred Sunday morning when the woman stabbed Harvey in the stomach, when Harvey cursed her for having brushed against him in the street. It is said she then turned on the man and gave him a severe tongue lashing.

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NEGRESS WHO KILLED WHITE MAN IS JAILED

Admits Slaying and Exonerates Negro Companion.

VICKSBURG, Miss., Aug. 12.—With Malinda White, confessed slayer of Will Harvey, well-known Vicksburger, in jail at Jackson along with Sam Jenkins, "her man," things have quieted down in Warren County.

The crime was committed early Sunday morning in front of the Palace pool room, the negress stabbing Mr. Harvey in the pit of the stomach when he reproved her after accidentally brushing against the woman on the street and hearing her abuse him.

Posses were out all day Sunday and Monday hunting for the negress, who fled after the murder. Jenkins was taken early Monday and rushed to Jackson with a mob in pursuit.

Late last night the White woman worked her way out of Kent's bottom, which has a dense growth of weeds, and made her way to the home of Grant Brown, a negro man who lives near Cedars. He advised the woman to give herself up or she might fall into the hands of a mob and be lynched. She agreed to do so and the officers were called. She was immediately rushed to Jackson for safekeeping.

On the journey to Jackson the woman talked freely of the Harvey killing. The woman admitted that she had stabbed Mr. Harvey, she also declared that Sam Jenkins had nothing to do with the affair, and that Jenkins had been in the Bell Cafe when the tragedy occurred.

Grant Brown, the negro, who turned over the information to the police that Melinda White was at his home, has put in a claim for the usual $100 statutory reward for apprehending a fleeing slayer.

FEARED MOB VIOLENCE.

Syrian Merchant Who Stabbed Contractor Removed From Laurel.

LAUREL, Miss., Dec. 27.—Fearing mob, members of the sheriff's department removed N. J. Haik, local Syrian merchant, to an unknown destination, following rumors of high feeling against the Syrian, who Wednesday night without warning, through a mistake in the identity of his victim, leaped from a concealment behind a railroad box car and inflicted several bad knife wounds in the body and head of D. W. McLendon, well-known contractor, who with his wife, were on a Christmas shopping tour. Haik claims he thought Mr. McLendon was his daughter's husband whom she married against her father's wishes.

NEGRO SLAYS FARMER.

Shooting Affair Over Stolen Auto Parts Ends Fatally—Slayer Wounded.

HOLLANDALE, Miss., Oct. 9.—A shooting affair took place yesterday near Percy between two white men and two negroes, which resulted in the death of Jack Fife, a white farmer, and the wounding of a negro. It seems that Napoleon Jackson had stolen some automobile parts from Jack Fife and when Fife asked the negro to pay for the damage the negro went after his brother and both came back to Fife's home heavily armed and started the fight.

Jack Fife's brother was in the house at the time the fighting started and he came to the rescue of his brother, but the real instigator, Napoleon Jackson, escaped.

Prompt action on the part of the Sharkey County sheriff prevented mob violence. The people were very much wrought up and wanted to make short work of the wounded negro but wiser heads prevailed and he was sent to a hospital for treatment. Posses scoured the country all night for Jackson but so far he has not been located. The fight took place on the line between Washington and Sharkey counties so officers from both counties were called.

Lynchings—1924.

Missouri.

1674

Prevented.

SHERIFF SLAIN IN RAILROAD YARDS AT MEXICO, MO.

C. L. Blum Killed When He Attempts to Arrest an Intoxicated Negro—Dies Discharging Revolver.

Special to the Post-Dispatch.

MEXICO, Mo., Feb. 11.—C. L. Blum, Sheriff of Audrain County, was shot and instantly killed by an intoxicated negro whom he sought to arrest last night in the railroad yards here. Three witnesses to the murder identified James Crump, 34 years old, who was removed to the jail at St. Louis early today, after an all-night grilling, for safekeeping.

Blum was returning from a visit when he heard shooting, as he reached the Wabash-Chicago & Alton tracks at Western avenue at 11 p. m. Switchmen pointed to a negro who was chasing a negro woman across the track. He caught the negro, led him back to the crossing and began to question him.

The negro began to shoot as he wrenched himself from Blum's grasp, two bullets entering the Sheriff's body. As his assailant fled Blum emptied his revolver at him before falling dead.

Two hours later, while police and deputies were gathered in front of the city hall preparing to make a search for the negro, Crump passed and was pointed out by one of two switchmen who witnessed the shooting. He was taken to the office of Prosecuting Attorney Hollingsworth, where he told several conflicting stories and stoutly denied the charge.

At 4 a. m., fearing that there might be an attempt at mob violence, Hollingsworth ordered Deputy Sheriff William Barnett to board a train to St. Louis with the prisoner.

Blum was a bachelor and 54 years old. He has been Sheriff since 1920, and made his home with relatives. He was considered a crack shot, "quick on the draw," and acquaintances believe he must have been taken entirely by surprise.

The negro's revolver was not found. Witnesses reported that they saw a man in the yards shooting at switch lights.

Crump was brought to St. Louis jail this morning by Deputy Barnett, who will return to Mexico. It is planned to keep the prisoner in St. Louis until his case is called for trial.

ST. LOUIS MO. GLOBE DEM
FEBRUARY 12, 1924

NEGRO SLAYER BROUGHT HERE TO AVERT LYNCHING

Jim Crump, negro, who was arrested in Mexico, Mo., Sunday night in connection with the murder of Chal Blum, Sheriff of Audrain County, several hours earlier, yesterday confessed the killing to St. Louis detectives. Crump was removed from Mexico to the St. Louis jail for safe keeping to avert a possible lynching.

The Sheriff was killed in a gun battle with the negro when the officer attempted to arrest him for shooting out signal lights along the tracks of the Chicago and Alton Railroad in the western part of Mexico. Steps were taken to have the negro removed to St. Louis when a large crowd of citizens gathered in the streets and threatened to take the prisoner from the officers.

Judge E. A. Gantt of the Audrain County Circuit Court will hear the case against the negro as soon as Blum's funeral is over. The entire city of Mexico is clamoring for the immediate execution of judgment but will be satisfied to let him be tried in a lawful way.

Funeral services for Sheriff Blum will be held at the Christian Church of Mexico at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

TOWN IS GUARDED TO PREVENT RIOT OVER KLAN FIGHT

Maysville, Mo., March 29.—Heavily armed special deputies were patroling the streets of this city tonight to prevent further fighting between members of the Ku Klux Klan and anti-Klan forces.

Other deputies were guarding the city jail, fearing an attempt to lynch Newman Estes, a retired farmer-merchant, who shot Mayor Arthur Sisson earlier in the day in what officials say was the outgrowth of the bitter fight here between the klan and its enemies.

Sisson is believed to be dying and Estes is in the jail.

The shooting occurred on Maysville's main street and is thought to have resulted from Sisson's withdrawal of his support of a klan ticket at a recent municipal election.

A mob of several hundred men surrounded the jail following Estes' arrest and threatened a lynching.

Sheriff Frank Smith hastily mobilized his deputies and drove the mob from the jail.

The sheriff will attempt Estes away to St. Joseph.

SECRETE NEGRO FIREBUGS.

Confess They Were Hired to Burn Property by Bootleggers.

SALISBURY, Mo., Dec. 6.—Three negroes who in confessing to arson last week implicated other persons, today are in a prison, the location of which was known only in highest Maryland police circles.

The men, Richard Howard, Alonzo Gunby, and Sidney Mills, were arrested following fire to two places. In their confession, according to the police, they said they had been hired to burn the places by bootleggers because the occupants of the houses had informed the police where stills were located.

The negroes have been transferred from one jail to another four times this week. The authorities last night received warnings that there was talk of a dash being made on the jail at Salisbury to lynch the prisoners. The hostility toward the prisoners, authorities said, was among sympathizers of a liquor ring in the county.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

New Jersey.

1672

NEGRO THREATENED

Hooded Men Confront Prisoner; Are Persuaded to Leave

BRIDGETOWN, N. J., June 17.—Two hundred white robed and hooded men last night filed in to the county jail and confronted Eppie Cuff, a negro recently sentenced to six months imprisonment for operating a motor car while intoxicated. Cuff also awaits grand jury action on a charge in connection with his alleged friendliness with a white girl.

One of the masked men called for rope but Cuff's cries for help brought policemen to the scene who persuaded the masked men to leave the jail.

BAD WHITE WOMAN SQUEALS, KLANSMAN INVADE N. J. JAIL

BRIDGETON, N. J.—On last Tuesday morning at 1 o'clock, 200 masked men, wearing the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan, were found peering thru the grating into the cell of Epp Cuff, with the intention of lynching him. Cuff was confined and sentenced to sixty days for driving an automobile while intoxicated. However this was not the cause for the mob's presence. When Cuff was arrested, after running his car into an electric light pole, a white girl was found in the car with him.

The girl admits that she had been friendly with Cuff for nearly a year. She is reported to have said that he had given her money. Her statements admit that her relationship was voluntary. There was no force used. According to the police, the girl, Leona Turpin, had been giving them a lot of trouble and belongs to a group of incorigibles who have defied the police for months.

The mob does not consider the fact that the girl was friendly with Cuff of her own free will and there is no case against him. The mob has blood in its eyes, because the girl is white and the man is colored.

Cuff will be given a speedy trial. He was held in default of $2,500 bail. The court is likely to deal severely with him because of his relationship with the woman regardless of the fact that the woman is of ill repute. Two policemen prevented the Kluxers from lynching their intended victim.

Lynchings- 1924 Prevented. North Carolina.

1677

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Journal
JUL 30 1924

MAY ASK TROOPS TO ATTEND TRIAL

lifax Sheriff Will Consult ...aking

...ne is NOW IN JAIL

Funeral of Slain Man Held Yesterday

(By The Associated Press)

Raleigh, July 29.—Replying to a question over long distance telephone tonight as to whether he would ask Governor Morrison for troops to guard the court room when Cheatham Evans, negro, now held in state's prison here in connection with the death of Arthur L. Joyner, Hollister taxi driver, last Saturday night, is brought to trial, Sheriff House, of Halifax county, stated tha he could not answer definitely until he had conferred with the solicitor of the district.

It is thought possible, in view of the tense feeling that developed Monday morning at the capital when Evans and the discovery on his person of a watch and pocket knife belonging to Joyner, that the authorities, either county or state, might deem troops necessary.

Ultimate authority for ordering out troops rests with the gover-nor. He can assume this authority without request from county authorities if he deems it necessary.

Funeral services were held for Joyner at his home at Hollister early this afternoon while the community mourned his death and sympathized with his widow and five young daughters. The body was carried to Nashville 24 miles away, for burial.

No inquest was held over the body. It was announced by authorities Monday night following the finding of the body in a creek near Hollister that a coroner's inquest would be held today. However, the inquest was not held. Sheriff House said over long distance telephone tonight, explaining that the authorities had decided it was unnecessary.

The gun was found by Sheriff C. L. Johnson, of Nash county, who is assisting Halifax county officers in getting evidence in the case. It was stated over long distance telephone this morning that the gun would be sent to Raleigh for finger print comparisons, but Sheriff House, of Halifax, said tonight that the gun was being held there. He said he did not think it was necessary to send it to Raleigh.

As early as yesterday, even before the body of Joyner had been discovered, officers indicated that it was a foregone conclusion that a charge of murder would be preferred against Cheatham Evans. At state prison tonight Warden said that to his knowledge the charge had not yet been brought.

Five other negroes were arrested besides Evans in connection with the killin gof Joyner, but at least two of them were taken into custody only as material witnesses. The other three are being held in the Halifax county jail.

BODY OF MISSING CHAUFFEUR, SLAIN, FOUND IN CREEK

A. J. Joyner, North Carolina, Victim; Cheatham Evans, Negro, Involved in Mystery Escapes Mob, Now in Prison

RALEIGH, N. C., July 28.—The body of A. J. Joyner, public chauffeur, was found by a searching party late today in a creek near the spot where Cheatham Evans, negro, told officers it had been thrown after he had been robbed and killed by Ernest Lee, also a negro, according to long distance telephone message received at the governors' office tonight.

Cheatham Evans, negro, held in connection with the disappearance of A. J. Joyner, public chauffeur arrived at the state prison here shortly after 7 o'clock tonight from Nashville guarded by the Wilson military company.

The negro was brought from Nash county where a mob is said to have threatened to lynch him earlier in the day.

George Brown, another negro suspect, was not brought to the prison, the authorities believing he had nothing to do with the disappearance of Joyner, they asserted.

The body was found near the spot where Cheatham Evans, negro, told officers of Halifax and Nash counties it had been thrown by Ernest Lee, another negro, Evans declared, according to the sheriff of Nash county, that Lee killed Joyner after robbing him and then threw the body in the creek. With the the exception of a rubber mat resembling one ownd by Joyner, no trace of the automobile has been found.

Evans told the officers that Lee, George Brown and himself were in the car when Joyner was shot. He declared he took no part in the slaying.

Sheriff Johnson of Nash county said tonight that Lee and Brown had proved almost perfect alibis, but they are being held in the Halifax county jail pending developments. Another negro Elijah Lynch, also is being held.

Joyner, about 40 years old, was employed by a negro Saturday night to carry him to a point about ten miles from Hollister. When he did not return to his home, his wife appealed to the authorities to institute a search for him. Late yesterday a posse found the rubber mat near Fishing Creek but no trace of the missing man was discovered.

Early today Evans was arrested in Halifax county and a watch belonging to Jayner was found in his possession. Reports had been circulated throughout the country that Joyner had been murdered and feeling against the negro ran high. The sheriff started for the Nash county jail at Nashville with Evans, but was overtaken by several carloads of men at Taylor's store, 11 miles north of Nashville.

The officer carried the negro into the store and telephoned to Nashville for assistance. Sheriff Johnson and a number of Nash county deputies went to the store and guarded Evans until a national guard company arrived from Wilson. The negro then was rushed to the state prison at Raleigh for safe keeping.

It was while at Taylor's store that Evans told the officers where Joyner's body could be found. Most of the mob estimated to number 500 men, left immediately to search for the body.

Officers stated tonight they believed Evans had accomplices who had escaped in Joyner's car.

A coroner's inquest will be held over the body here tomorrow morning.

Feeling against the negroes was at fever heat here in this vicinity tonight, but the authorities said they expected no trouble.

NEGROES HELD IN ATTACK

North Carolina Blacks Taken to State Prison for Safe Keeping

RALEIGH, N. C., April 23.—Will Tyson, 17, and Ivey Marley, 35, negroes, were brought here this afternoon from Carthage, N. C., and committed to the state prison for safe keeping. The two men were arrested in connection with the assault on a 16 year old white school girl at Carthage, Monday afternoon.

Tyson has been formally charged with having made the attack on the girl, she having identified him as her assailant following his arrest.

FIVE NEGROES HELD FOR DRIVER'S DEATH

Hollister, N. C., July 29.—Cheatham Evans, negro, who late yesterday was carried to Raleigh under protection of a national guard company, is being held in the state prison there in connection with the slaying of A. J. Joyner, public chauffeur, whose body was found early last night in Fishing creek near Dollet's bridge.

Five other negroes are being held in connection with the killing. Elijah Lynch and Walter Evans in the Nash county jail and Ernest Lee, Tom Lee and George Brown in the Halifax county jail.

The body of Joyner was found by a posse near the spot where Evans informed officers it had been thrown by Lee, who, he said, killed Joyner after robbing him. Shortly afterward Joyner's automobile was found near here at a negro cabin where Evans spent Sunday night. The occupant of the cabin told authorities that Evans had attempted to borrow a license from him, saying he desired to take a trip. Efforts had been made to mutilate identification marks on the machine, officers said.

Lynchings—1924 Prevented.

1665

North Carolina.

OFFICERS LEAVE STATE WITH PRISONER; FOIL LYNCHERS

Norfolk, Va., March 7.—A bloodthirsty mob of white citizens was thwarted in its attempt to lynch two men in North Carolina recently through the integrity and courage of some officers, who hurried to this city with the prisoners. Elwell Overton and Leroy White were arrested by the police of Elizabeth City, N. C., the former charged with having pushed a white man from the deck of a tugboat, causing him to drown, and the latter charged with robbery.

The men, hearing that the men were in jail, quickly formed a lynching bee and hastened to the town lockup, but the police had been warned and had left the state with the men. Both will be kept in the jail here until the authorities feel it is safe to take them back for

Spirited From Mob

RALEIGH, N. C., Mar. 6.—Davis Goodwin was brought for the State Prison last week, after he had been spirited away from Craven County to avoid a threatened lynching, growing out of the probable fatal shooting of William Case, white.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Sta

APR 10 1924

Troops Escort Negro To State Pen Cell

RALEIGH, April 9—Dillard Goodman, negro sentenced today at Newbern to 20 years in the penitentiary for the slaying of William Case young white man of Fort Barnwell, was lodged in the penitentiary early tonight by a special detachment of troops of Battery G. 117th artillery. The troops escorted the negro to the penitentiary from Newbern this afternoon as a precautionary measure.

The trial of Goodman terminated suddenly today at Newbern after the evidence of both defense and state had been presented to the jury. After a consultation participated in by counsel of both sides and the trial judge, the negro submitted a plea of guilty to second degree murder and was immediately sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary. He had been tried on a first degree murder indictment.

TROOPS HALT MOB

Raeford, N. C., June 16.—Troops [illegible] guns were [illegible] last night [illegible] lynching Robert C. Wright, accused of [illegible] white woman.

JUN 17 1924

SALISBURY, N. C., Post

APR 9 - 1924

GOODMAN RUSHED TO RALEIGH PEN

New Bern Negro Hustled Out of Town By State Troops to Outwit Crowd.

New Bern, N. C., April 9.—Dillard Goodman, negro, today was sentenced in superior court here to serve twenty years in the state penitentiary for the slaying several weeks ago of William Case, young white man, of Fort Barnwell. He will be taken to the prison tonight under guard of a detachment from Battery D. 117th field artillery.

Later it was learned the announcement that the negro would be taken to Raleigh tonight was "a blind" and that he was to be taken immediately. Captain A. T. Willis with a truck and eight automobiles loaded with troopers left here at 11:55 o'clock for Raleigh, with Goodman.

troops.

Wright was arrested late today. He is charged with an attempted attack upon a young white woman.

Raleigh, N. C., June 16.—Robert C. Wright, Negro, captured today and charged with an attempted attack upon a young white woman near Raeford, N. C., was placed in jail at that place late today and is guarded by deputies, according to advices received here tonight.

Raeford, N. C., June 16.—Following a man-hunt of several hours, in which about a thousand citizens of Hoke county are said to have participated, Robert C. Wright young South Carolina negro was captured late today and said to have been identified by a young white woman as the Negro who earlier in the day attacked her in an attempt at criminal assault.

What became of the Negro following his capture could not be ascertained here early tonight. The young woman is reported to have escaped uninjured except for bruises about the face and arms. The captured Negro is said to have borne scars on his face as a result of a struggle with his victim.

Knoxville Tenn. Tribune

JUN 17 1924

Negro Jailed For Attempted Attack

Heavy Guard Thrown About Raeford, N. C. Jail At End Of Man Hunt

RAEFORD, N. C., June 16.—Following a man hunt of several hours, county are said to have participated, which about 1000 citizens of Hoke

Robert Wright, young South Carolina negro, was captured lote today and said to have been identified by a young white woman as the negro who earlier in the day attacked her. The negro was placed in jail here and is under heavy guard.

The young woman is reported to have escaped uninjured except for bruises about the face and arms. The captured negro bears scars on his face as a result of the struggle with his victim.

Bristol Va-Tenn Courier

JUN 17 1924

MOB VIOLENCE ON A NEGRO CHARGED WITH ASSAULT ON WOMAN IS FEARED

(By The Associated Press)

Raleigh, N. C., June 16.—Governor Cameron Morrison late tonight after issuing an order for National Guardsmen of Raeford to go on duty at the jail in Raeford to guard Robert Wright, negro rescinded the order.

It was stated that later reports to the executive convinced him that the sheriff had the situation well in hand and would not need the

RALEIGH, N. C., Observer

JUL 23 1924

NEAR LYNCHING AT ROCKINGHAM

Negro Found Beating Way On Train Suspected of Being Slayer

Rockingham, July 22.—One of the coldest blooded murders perpetrated in this section in a long time was that of Chalmers Sedberry, in White Store township, Anson county, last Saturday morning. Jim Collins, the negro who shot the white man, fled.

There came near being a lynching of the wrong man at Rockingham Sunday as the result of the murder of Mr. Sdeberry. A negro was observed stealing a ride on a Seaboard freight, as it passed Wadesboro, and so the officers at Rockingham were notified to be on the lookout for him, as he was thought to be Jim Collins, the slayer.

Officers, therefore, stationed themselves at the depot. About 4:30 the freight pulled in, and the strange negro was seen to jump from the train and make off through the Shaw woods, to the South. An officer fired several times to stop him, but this made his going the faster. A crowd of men gathered as if by magic, armed with almost every conceivable weapon, and in short order perhaps 150 men were scouring the Shaw woods.

He was finally found hiding in a ditch, scared literally to death. He repeated over and over that he hadn't harmed anyone, that he was just beating a ride; but many in the crowd were convinced that he was the man wanted. Someone suggested that he be turned loose, and allowed to run; others suggested stringing him up. Be that as it may, cooler heads prevailed, and an officer arriving about that time, he was taken in charge and hustled to the jail. In a few minutes it was found that his name really was Hassie Johnson, whose home is at Hamlet; he was beating a ride from Wingate to Hamlet. It is said his relief was painful to behold—when he heard the heavy jail doors swung shut. Right glad was he to "get in jail." Monday afternoon he was tried be fore the mayor for beating a ride on the train and sentenced to the chain gang for 30 days.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. Observer

JUL 31 1924

ANOTHER NEGRO RUSHED TO RALEIGH FOR SAFE-KEEPING

RALEIGH, July 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Fearing possible mob violence, Sheriff Johnson, of Nash county, brought Tom Lee, negro, under arrest in connection with the slaying of A. L. Joyner, near Hollister, last Saturday night, to the state prison here this afternoon for safekeeping.

Lee was one of several negroes implicated in the slaying of Joyner in a confession by Cheatham Evans, another negro, who is also held at the penitentiary for safekeeping.

GREENSBORO, N. C., News

JUL 30 1924

BEST TO TAKE NO CHANCES.

We have no proof whatever that the Halifax county people ever had any intention of lynching the negro Evans, held for the murder of a Hollister man. We do not know that the governor had any more evidence than we had. Nevertheless, Mr. Morrison was indisputably right in taking no chances, but removing the man at once under military guard. The state can afford the expense of calling out the militia much better than it can afford to run even a remote risk of being disgraced by another lynching.

Nor is the action of the governor in any wise a reflection upon the Halifax county people. The crime was a peculiarly atrocious one, by all accounts; and any occurrence of the sort invariably attracts to the scene a throng of the morbidly curious, who are not distinguished for their good sense in any circumstances, and are particularly likely to do something foolish under stress of such excitement as this. The negro might have been lynched without the participation of a single Halifax county man, but the disgrace of the lynching would none the less have lain upon Halifax. The governor was protecting the good name of the county as well as that of the state.

In a crisis of this particular sort Governor Morrison usually acts sensibly and prudently, which necessarily means swiftly. In this instance he has strengthened his record for good sense in handling such situations.

Raleigh N.C.
Times
7-28-24

Large Crowd Threatens To Lynch Negro; Troops Out

TAMPA, FLA., Tribune

JUL 29 1924

Sheriff Long, of Nash County, told the Associated Press this afternoon over long distance telephone that he had in custody at Taylor's store, nine miles north of Nashville, Cheatham Evans, negro, who he said had told him where the body of A. J. Joyner, missing white taxi driver, of Hollister, could be found. The sheriff said about 200 men had surrounded the store, threatening to lynch the negro. He hoped, the sheriff added, to be able to hold off the crowd and prevent the negro's lynching until troops arrived from Wilson.

Taylor's store, Sheriff Long stated, was first surrounded by a much larger crowd, but a large number of the men left on a search for the body of the missing taxi driver.

WILSON, July 28.—More than a thousand persons have surrounded Taylor's store, nine miles north of Nashville, threatening to lynch a negro who is reported to be held there by officers in connection with the disappearance of A. J. Joyner, a white taxi driver, according to a telephone message received here.

The Wilson military company left here in automobiles shortly before 2 o'clock to protect the negro, having been ordered to the scene by Governor Morrison.

Joyner has been missing since Saturday night when, according to Mrs. Joyner, a negro employed him to carry him fifteen miles in the country. When he did not return to his home early Sunday morning a search was instituted, but no trace of Joyner has been found.

According to word reaching here the negro under arrest has been identified as the man who employed Joyner to carry him into the country. It is said two other negroes were in the car when it left Hollister, but they have not been apprehended.

A rubber mat identified by Mrs Joyner as one used on Joyner's automobile was found in a creek about ten miles from Hollister late yesterday, but no trace of the automobile had been found today.

SHERIFF STAYS MOB SEEKING NEGRO FOR CHAUFFEUR'S DEATH

NORTH CAROLINA OFFICER HOLDS WOULD-BE LYNCHERS IN CHECK

Negro Held Implicated Two Others, Arrested, Almost Establish Innocense

HOLLISTER, N. C., July 28.—(By The Associated Press).—A searching party at 7:30 Monday night found the body of A. L. Joyner, a public chauffeur who was robbed and killed Saturday night, in Fishing Creek, near Wollett's bridge. Joyner had been shot three times, twice in the back and once in the mouth.

The body of Joyner was found near the spot where Cheatham Evans, negro, told officers of Halifax and Nash counties had been thrown by Ernest Lee, another negro. Evans declared according to the sheriff of Nash county, that Lee killed Joyner after robbing him and then threw the body in creek. The automobile was found at the home of a negro where Evans spent the night. There were signs that an unsuccessful attempt had been made to file the motor numbers, but without success.

Evans told the officers that Lee, George Brown and himself were in the car when Joyner was shot. He declared he had nothing to do with the slaying of the chauffeur.

The authorities do not believe Evans story as to the other negroes. Sheriff Johnson of Nash county said Monday night that Lee and Brown had proved almost perfect alibis. However, they are being held in the Halifax county jail pending developments. Another negro, Elijah Lynch, also is being held on suspicion of having connection with the case.

Joyner was employed by a negro about eight o'clock Saturday night to carry him to a point about ten miles from Hollister. When he did not return to his home Saturday night, his wife appealed to the authorities to institute a search for him. Late Sunday a searching party found a rubber mat near Fishing Creek, but no trace of Joyner was discovered.

Early Monday Evans was arrested in Halifax county and a watch belonging to Joyner was found in his possession. Reports had been circulated throughout the county that Joyner had been murdered and feeling against the negro ran high. The sheriff started for the Nash county jail at Nashville with Evans, but was overtaken by several carloads of men at Taylor's store, eleven miles north of Nashville.

Telephoned for Aid

The officer carried the negro into the store and telephoned to Nashville for assistance. Sheriff Johnson and a number of Nash county deputies went to Taylor's store and protected Evans until troops arrived from Wilson. The negro was then rushed to the state prison at Raleigh for safe keeping.

It was while at Taylor's store that Evans told the officers where Joyner's body could be found. Members of the mob had sent word to the officers inside the store that they would not molest Evans if he would tell them where they could find Joyner's body. Evans then said Lee had killed Joyner after robbing him, throwing his body in Fishing Lake. Most of the mob, estimated to number 500 men left immediately in search of Joyner's body, but it was not found until Monday night.

Joyner was about forty years of age. He leaves a widow and five small children. He had operated a public service automobile here for some time.

Officers stated Monday night that they believed that Evans had accomplices and these had escaped in Joyner's car. The automobile was a small touring car of popular make.

A coroners inquest will be held over the body here Tuesday morning.

Feeling against the negroes was at fever heat here in this vicinity Monday night, but the authorities said they did not think there would be any trouble as the people for the most part believe the negroes held at Halifax had no connection with the killing of Joyner.

RALEIGH, N. C., Observer

JUL 30 1924

BLOOD SMEARED GUN DISCOVERED AT NEGRO'S HOME

Held As Evidence Against Cheatham Evens Now In State Prison

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR DEAD JITNEY DRIVER

Five Other Negroes Arrested In Connection With Death of A. L. Joyner Will Be Used As Material Witnesses; No Inquest Held Over Body

Replying to a question over long distance telephone last night as to whether he would ask Governor Morrison for troops to guard the courtroom when Cheatham Evans, negro, now held in State's Prison here in connection with the death of Arthur L. Joyner, Hollister jitney driver, last night, is brought to trail, Sheriff House, of Halifax county, stated that he could not answer definitely until he had conferred with the Solicitor of the district.

It is thought possible, in view of the tense feeling that developed Monday following the capture of Evans and discovery upon his person of a watch and pocket knife belonging to Joyner, that the authorities, either county or State, might deem troops necessary.

Governor to Decide.

Ultimate authority for ordering out troops rests with the Governor. He can assume this authority without request from county authorities if he thinks it necessary. This Governor Morrison did in February at the trial of a negro in Nash Superior court on a charge of having attacked a woman. The sheriff had not asked for the troops and even stated that they were not needed, the county authorities being able to cope with the situation. It was reported that considerable feeling was stirred up against the Governor's action.

Funeral services were held for Joyner at his home at Hollister early yesterday afternoon while the community mourned his death and sympathized with his widow and five young daughters. The body was carried to Nashville, 24 miles away, for burial.

No inquest was held over the body. It was announced by authorities Monday night following the finding of the body in a creek near Hollister that a coroner's inquest would be held yesterday. However, the inquest was not held, Sheriff House said over long distance telephone tonight, explaining that the authorities had decided it unnecessary.

Find Bloody Shotgun.

The principal development besides the funeral of the deceased driver, was the finding of a shotgun smeared with blood in the home of Cheatham Evans near Hollister and near where the negro was arrested Monday morning.

The gun was found by Sheriff C. L. Johnson, of Nash county, who was assisting Halifax county officers in gathering evidence in the case. It was stated over long distance telephone that the gun would be sent to Raleigh for finger print comparisons, but Sheriff House, of Halifax said last night that the gun was being held there. He said he did not think it necessary to send it to Raleigh.

As early as Monday even before the body of Joyner had been discovered, officers indicated that it was a foregone conclusion that a charge of murder would be preferred against Cheatham Evans. At State's Prison last night Warden Busbee said that to his knowledge the charge had not yet been brought.

Five other negroes were arrested besides Evans in connection with the killing of Joyner, but at least two of them were taken into custody only as material witnesses. The other three are being held in the Halifax county jail.

KNOXVILLE, TENN. Sentinel

JUL 29 1924

NEGRO IN SLAYING

Negro Is Lodged In North Carolina Prison In Connection With Murder of Chauffeur.

HELLISTER, N. C., July 29.—Cheatham Evans, negro, ho late yesterday was taken to Raleigh under protection of a national guard company, is being held in the state prison there in connection with the slaying of A. J. Joyner, public chauffeur, whose body was found early last night in Fishing Creek, near Woolett's Bridge.

Five other negroes are being held in connection with the killing, Elijah Lynch and Walter Evans in the Nash county jail, and Ernest Lee, Tom Lee and George Brown in the Halifax county jail.

The body of Joyner was found by a posse near the spot where Evans informed officers it had been thrown by Lee, who he said killed Joyner after robbing him. Shortly afterard Joyner's automobile was found near here at a negroe cabin where Evans spent Sunday night. The occupant of the cabin told authorities that Evans had attempted to borrow a license from him, saying he desired to take a trip. Efforts had been made to mutilate identification marks on the machine, officers said.

Evans was arrested early yesterday in Halifax county when a watch which belonged to Joyner was found in his possession, Joyner had been hired Saturday night by a negro to carry him to a point about ten miles from Hollister and when he did not return his wife requested authorities to make a search for him. Feeling was high against the negro following reports that Joyner had been murdered and he was rushed to jail in Nashville by the sheriff but was overtaken by a mobz at Taylor's store.

The negro was carried into the store and guarded until officers arrived from Nashville, in answer to a telephone message and was later taken to Raleigh under protection of a national guard company from Wilson. The mob, estimatetd at five hundred men, left the store to search for the body upon information given by the negro, finding it shortly afterward.

Evans told officers that he received the watch from the negro, George Brown, Saturday night and that a knife which also was said to belong to Joyner came into his possession several months ago.

He declared that Ernest Lee confessed to him in the presence of five other negroes that he killd a man Saturday night 3 miles below Hollister and had thrown the body in Fishing Creek

Lynchings - 1924.
Prevented.

Ohio.

1662

CINCINNATI O TRIBUNE
APRIL 5, 1924

MOB THREATENS TO LYNCH NEGRO AFTER SHOOTING

Crowd Regards Fugitive as Assailant When Shopkeeper, Firing at Alleged Thief, Wounds Boy Passing By.

A mob of nearly five hundred men threatened to lynch a negro who, it was believed, had shot a sixteen-year-old boy yesterday, and was dragging him toward the river when police intervened. Detectives Glindmeier and Hartley, attracted by the cries of the mob at Second and Lawrence streets, were forced to drive their automobile through the crowd, knocking several men to the ground, before they could rescue the negro.

Joseph Eckert, Jr., 29 years old, a partner in the Eckert Brothers dry goods store, 309 East Pearl street, fired one shot at the fleeing negro, Chester Rankin, 19 years old, 528 George street, who, he alleged, stole a silk shirt from his store. The bullet missed Rankin and struck William Kettenacker 16 years old, 400 Carmalt street, Mt. Auburn, who was passing the store. The boy was wounded in the left thigh.

A number of men, attracted by the shot, and seeing the negro fleeing, jumped to the conclusion that he had shot the boy and gave chase.

Aroused by cries of "lynch him! Lynch him!" from the pursuing mob, men joined in the chase until the crowd had been augmented to nearly five hundred when the negro was captured at Second and Lawrence streets.

Detectives Glindmeier and Hartley said that before they were able to penetrate the mob the negro had been severely beaten.

The detectives also were beaten in the battle that ensued, they charge. After rescuing Rankin they drove their automobile out through the crowd and took the fugitive to a near-by saloon.

The detectives were forced to barricade the doors, they said, to repel a number of men who followed. A police patrol was called to the scene and the mob dispersed.

Eckert was charged by police with shooting with intent to kill. He alleged that the negro entered the store and seized the shirt.

Lynchings - 1924.
Prevented.

Oklahoma.

1663

ATTACK CONFESSION INCITES MOB FURY

Picher, Okla., Quiet After Stormy Night; Said to Have Admitted Killing Boy

PICHER, OKLA., July 21.—Picher went about its regular affairs today with nothing showing that last night only prompt steps taken by officers prevented mob action against Jud Parsons, 17, who according to Joe Nolan, assistant chief of police, confessed to having attacked and killed Floyd Smith, five years old.

Parsons is in the Ottawa county jail at Miami today, Nolan said, where he was rushed after a crowd of about 200 persons last night milled about cars after Parsons had been taken to the morgue to view the boy's body. Officers fearing the temper of the throng, sped from the city, instead of returning the prisoner to the Picher city jail.

The dead boy was the son of Joe Smith, an ore hauler in the mines nearby. Early Saturday morning he ran to his home crying to his mother that he had been injured by a man who lured him to a box car on a pretext of giving him a watch.

Parsons was arrested yesterday.

PICHER, OKLA., IS QUIET AS BOY'S SLAYER HELD

Prompt Action by Police Halts Mob Action.

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ALLEGED SLAYER OF BOY RUSHED AWAY FROM MOB.

Youth of 17, Accused of Killing Child of 5, Taken to Neighboring City.

Picher, Okla., July 21.—Only prompt steps taken by officers prevented mob action against Jud Parsons, 17, who, according to Joe Nolan, assistant chief of police, confessed to having attacked and killed Floyd Smith, aged 5.

Parsons is in jail at Miami today, Nolan said, where he was rushed after a crowd of about 200 persons last night milled about the car after Parsons had been taken to a morgue to view the boy's body. Officers, fearing the temper of the throng, sped him from the city.

The boy was the son of Joe Smith, an ore hauler in the mines nearby. Early Saturday he ran to his home crying to his mother that he had been injured by a man who lured him to a box car on a pretext of giving him a watch.

Parsons was arrested yesterday. At first he denied knowledge of the case, but according to Nolan confessed last night at the morgue.

Lynchings-1924.
Prevented.

Pennsylvania.

1665

PHILADELPHIA PA INQUIRER
MARCH 10. 1924

ARMED POLICE AWE LYNCHING-BENT MOB AND RESCUE NEGRO

Crowd Menaces Alleged Assailant of Little Girls at Hearing

Occupants of Van Beat Up Prisoner Until Bluecoats Again Intervene

Police with drawn revolvers saved Robert Lee Walker, colored, from the hands of a crowd of men and women who sought to wreak vengeance on him in the police station at Nineteenth and Oxford streets yesterday morning after he had been held without bail on charges of enticing and attacking small girls in his tailor shop, at 908 North Nineteenth street.

Driven out of the station by the armed bluecoats, the crowd surrounded a prison van in the yard, informed six prisoners within of the charge against Walker and when the colored man was placed in the vehicle he was immediately beaten and trampled by the other prisoners. Finally it was necessary to place an armed policeman inside the van with the prisoners to make sure Walker was not injured further on his way to Moyamensing Prison.

Magistrate Roberts, who heard the case, said it was one of the most heinous in his experience and parents of little girls from five to seven years old testified that their children would require long medical treatment as the result of the attacks.

Dozen Parents Lodge Complaints

Walker was arrested last week after complaints of a dozen parents in the vicinity of Nineteenth and Poplar streets had been turned in to the police and investigated by Detectives Neely and Ginley. He received a preliminary hearing last Tuesday and was held in $5000 bail.

Meanwhile feeling in the neighborhood had reached fever heat and when Walker was brought up for final arraignment in the station yesterday morning the hearing room and corridors were jammed with men and women spectators and the street in front of the building also was crowded.

As the details of testimony were repeated by child after child the prisoner was hooted and jeered. Finally the crowd, which had been held back by several policemen, moved forward with a roar and a menacing surge.

"Kill him," and "tear him to pieces" sounded from out the din. Police Sergeant William Gelenthian and Detective George Kutcher sprang in front of the cowering prisoner with drawn revolvers. The crowd was driven out of the room and the hearing was concluded.

The children all told how they had been enticed into the shop by the tailor by offers of candy and money and mistreated in a rear room of the shop. The attacks appear to have occurred during the last six or seven months.

Prisoner Attacked in Van

Outside, meanwhile, the milling crowd had surrounded the van which was waiting to take Walker to Moyamensing. He shrank from the shouting mob and police formed a lane of protection as he was hurried down the steps and literally thrown into the van.

The steel door was slammed and police thought they had saved him from the crowd, when suddenly he was heard screaming and crying for help. The prisoners within, who had been told by the crowd, the crimes of which Walker was accused, had taken up the job and when Walker was dragged from the floor of the van he had been badly trampled and mauled.

N. Y. EVENING WORLD
JUNE 5, 1924

LYNCH HIM, CRIES MOB AFTER TRUCK RUNS OVER WOMAN

Police Save Negro From Williamsburg Crowd--Many Faint at Fatal Accident.

Henry Turner, a Negro, was driving a 10-ton truck owned by the Beyer Ice Cream Company of Philadelphia and loaded with ice cream, through the public market of Williamsburg at noon to-day when an aged woman slipped, and fell directly in his path. He was unable to stop the truck and the wheels ran over the woman's throat and breast, killing her.

The market was crowded. Some women fained and others screamed hysterically. Men left their stalls and pushcarts and made a rush for the truck, which had stopped as soon as the driver could put on the brakes.

Men were climbing up the front of the truck while others were shouting "Lynch him!" Policeman George Alexander came on the run. With his pocket billy he smashed his way through the crowd and was soon at the side of the driver, beating off men who were still trying to reach him. As soon as he got the front of the truck cleared of would-be lynchers Alexander blew his whistle and a squad of policemen on strike duty in a neraby clothing factory come.

The policemen formed a cordon around the truck, and Alexander ordered Turner to drive to the Bedford Avenue Station House. When he started the truck some of the excited people, man and women, clogged his path, some throwing themselves down on the street in front of him.

The police finally cleared the way, and Turner drove off, glad to have Alexander riding with him.

No one in the big crowd of marketers knew the identity of the victim. Cards in her pocket bore the name Mrs. Pearl Heffernan, and the address No. 180 Division Street. The body [illegible] at the Bedford Avenue statio[illegible] Turner was locked up on a technical charge of homicide.

NEGRO QUICKLY JAILED.

Sentenced to 15 Years Within Twelve Hours After Arrest.

GREENSBORO, Pa., June 21.—Twelve hours after his arrest on a charge of criminal assault upon a white girl near Derry, early this week, Elmer Wilson, a negro, today pleaded guilty and was given the maximum sentence of from 7 to 15 years in the Western Pennsylvania Penitentiary by Judge Charles D. Copeland.

Wilson was arrested last night by Capt. Thomas McLaughlin, of the state police. Armed men, who had patrolled the roads since the attack, spied the prisoner in an automobile with the officer. They gave chase in other machines, shouting: "Get him, kill him." Capt. McLaughlin outdistanced the mob.

Chief of Police Murphy and others succeeded in quieting the angry crowd which gathered at the hospital where Marshall and Smith were taken after being captured, seriously wounded in the running gun battle with Constable Cratty.

A detail of State Police from the Greensburg Barracks was brought here at dawn and took charge of the situation. The attempted hold-up occurred last midnight. Constable Cratty died in the hospital. Smith managed to escape but was later captured on a train at West Columbia. Cratty is survived by a widow and nine children.

N. Y. EVENING WORLD
JULY 15, 1924

MOB SEEKS TO LYNCH TWO NEGRO SLAYERS

Pennsylvania State Police Guard Charleroi Jail.

CHARLEROI, Pa., July 15.—Threatened by a mob after they were alleged to have slain Constable W. A. Cratty in an attempted hold-up of the toll collector at the Charleroi-Monessen bridge, Robert Marshall and William Smith, Negroes, were saved from possible lynching early to-day.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

South Carolina.

1660

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
SEP 3 1924

NEGROES MOVED FOR FEAR OF MOB

Columbia, S. C., September 2.—Four negroes, arrested today at Sumter, S. C., and charged by a coroner's jury with the slaying early Friday morning of John M. Dubose, night watchman employed by the Sumter Planing mills, were brought to Columbia late today and placed in the state penitentiary for safekeeping.

The negroes were arrested as they prepared to board an outgoing train it was stated. Belzer, according to officers, made a complete confession implicating others.

Considerable hostility toward the prisoners manifested itself in the community following the arrests, and after a conference, officers decided to remove the negroes to the state penitentiary as a precautionary measure.

The bullet-pierced body of Dubose was found early Friday morning in a small store near the planing mills. It was believed the watchman was killed by burglars whom he surprised in the act of robbing the store.

Officers are said to have stated that a quantity of cigarettes, alleged to have been stolen from the store was recovered today after the arrests.

BRINGS NEGROES TO STATE PRISON

Sheriff Gamble Makes Trip to Columbia.

An attack by a negro on a white girl at Silver Tuesday night, coming upon the heels of the slaying last Thursday at Alcolu of a white man by a negro led Sheriff J. E. Gamble of Clarendon county that night to bring the two negroes to the state penitentiary as a precaution against possible mob violence.

The negroes—Joe Johnson, charged with attempted criminal assault, and Humbert Gamble, charged with murder—had been confined in the Clarendon jail, Johnson having been arrested yesterday morning and Gamble last Thursday afternoon.

Both men admit the charges against them, the sheriff said, though Johnson declares he intended nothing beyond the placing of his arm around the white girl.

The girl's father operates a store at Silver and his daughter, 16 years old, had started to her home about 100 yards from the store Tuesday night when the negro jumped up from the high weeds along the pathway and caught her. The girl was severely choked and her throat torn by the negro's finger nails but managed to scream for help. Her mother and two white men heard the cries and Johnson, seeing them approach, turned and fled.

Pursuit was begun immediately and throughout the night the hunt went on, the searchers being ignorant of the fact that at 1 o'clock yesterday morning Johnson had been captured by Rural Policeman L. M. Shirer about a mile from the scene of the attack and had been lodged in the county jail.

Yesterday afternoon, however, the sheriff said, word came to him that the news had spread and that a crowd of 50 or 75 had been assembled and was moving toward Manning. Thereupon he took the negro and with him the other negro, Humbert Gamble, charged with the killing of Dave Hudnall, a white man, and, accompanied by Deputy J. M. Peary, set out in his automobile for Columbia. There had been some murmuring against the negro Gamble after his arrest last week, the sheriff said, and in the face of the attack upon the white girl by the other negro, he considered it the best policy to move the two prisoners to Columbia.

Both men are now being held as "safe keepers" at the penitentiary, where they will be left until September when the two can be tried.

The sheriff, deputy and two prisoners left Manning about 8 o'clock last night and reached Columbia shortly after midnight, having been forced to change automobiles en route. The two officers left this morning on the return journey.

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Officers are said to have stated that a quantity of cigarettes, alleged to have been stolen from the store was recovered to day.—Exchange.

Negroes Moved For Fear of Mob

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The Negroes were arrested as they prepared to board an outgoing train, it was stated. Belzer, according to officers, made a complete confession, implicating others.

Considerable hostility toward the prisoners manifested itself in the community following the arrests and after a conference, officers decided to remove the Negroes to the state penitentiary as a precautionary measure.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

South Carolina.
1661

NEGRESS SEEKS SAFETY OF JAIL

Alice Thomas and Family Now in Orangeburg.

NOT TO RETURN HOME

Preliminary Hearing for Eight White Men Will Be Allowed Thursday Morning.

Special to The State.

Orangeburg, April 22.—With Alice Thomas, negress who was taken from her home near Norway and flogged by a band of men two weeks ago, and all members of her family lodged in the county jail at their own request for protection, the preliminary hearing in the case against eight Orangeburg county white men, charged with whipping the negro woman, will be held before Magistrate Edward H. Blackmon Thursday morning.

The State

The eight men—Representative George W. Binnicker, Lonnie Garrick, George Hutto, Jim Fogle, Luther Whetstone, Willie Ford, Cecil Hutto and Bennie Davis—are at liberty under $1,000 bond each, formal charges of housebreaking in the night time to commit an assault and of assault and battery with intent to kill having been lodged against them.

4-23-24

The warrants in the case were issued by Magistrate Blackmon upon affidavit of W. W. Rogers, a detective working out of the governor's office. Alice Thomas and her husband, Primus Thomas, and their four boys, who comprise the family, are now at the Orangeburg county jail for their safety until the hearing Thursday. These negroes refused to return to that section and made known their desire for protection and their willingness to come to the jail until Thursday, the day of the hearing. Arrangements have been made for their employment after Thursday and they will reside in another section of Orangeburg county many miles distant from the Norway section.

Accused Deny Charges.

Representative Binnicker and the others implicated stoutly deny any connection whatever with the whipping. The outcome of this hearing will be of great interest for the reason that it is closely allied and connected with the burning of the South Willow schoolhouse. Information has been brought to Orangeburg that Alice Thomas, and especially her husband, are main witnesses as to the burning of the South Willow school, as they resided in full view of this schoolhouse.

It has been stated here that the flogging of Alice Thomas came about as a result of her alleged talking among white women of that section concerning a prominent white girl and therein, it is charged, seriously reflecting on the girl's character. The report is that this caused men of the community to become incensed and that the flogging resulted therefrom. There are others, however, who claim that the flogging was solely as a result of this negress' and her husband's being witnesses in the schoolhouse burning case, the theory being that the woman was suspected of supplying additional names concerning the burning case and that the whipping was designed to intimidate her or to run her and her husband and family from that section.

The South Willow schoolhouse, burned last August, was an old two story frame building with two rooms upstairs and two rooms downstairs with only one exit from the second floor. The second floor was formerly an auditorium, with opera chairs. The school having grown, this auditorium was divided into two classrooms, the opera chairs being used as desks. There was $5,000 carried on the old school building in the state sinking fund. With this $5,000 insurance and $2,000 county and state aid, a fine, modern, four room school, without spacious auditorium—a one story structure—has been erected and each of the school rooms equipped with desks. The new school is a credit to the community.

Elected by Voters.

The South Willow school district is the only school district in Orangeburg county, and probably the only one in South Carolina, where all three trustees are elected by the qualified electors every year. Representative George W. Binnicker, who resides in this school district, had a law passed at the last session of the legislature taking the election of these trustees out of the hands of the county board of education (under the former rule one trustee was elected each year for a term of three years by the board of education), and providing by this new statute for an annual election for three trustees. A recent election was held in accordance with this statute and two of the old trustees were re-elected and the third tied with another candidate. Another election must be held to name the third trustee. The South Willow school is about four miles from Norway on the road leading toward Cope.

Eldon P. Garrick has been arrested on a charge of burning this South Willow schoolhouse and has given bond for his appearance for trial at the May term of the court of general sessions for Orangeburg county. It has been stated here that a desk from this school was found in the house of Mr. Garrick, who is a well known farmer and resident of that section. It is reported that there are white witnesses, besides Alice Thomas and Primus Thomas, negroes, in this case.

Kannapolis N.C.
Star.
8-1-24

Mob Near Lynching Wrong Man.

An Anson county mob came near lynching the wrong man near Wadesboro Monday, when Hassie Johnson, a Hamlet negro, was captured from a freight train on which he was stealing a ride. Wise counsel of officers and his quick removal soon established his identity and the negro was not molested by the mob. He did not escape entirely, however. Wadesboro courts sent him to the roads for 30 days for vagrancy.

The search is being led by Sheriff Braswell and other Anson county officers, Sheriff J. J. Morton and other Stanly county officers, Chiefe of Police Hartsell, of Oakboro; Chief of Police Troutman and Policemen Crisco and Fulton, of Albemarle and Policeman King, of Norwood. Assisting them were bloodhounds from Rockwell and Wadesboro.

A throng of Anson and tSanly county men are in the esarch, including hundreds of the slain man's personal friends. There i sone element of the mob that makes no pretensions to a desire to turn the negro over to the officers when captured. If by chance he should fall into their hands his life would end violently and quickly. oFrtunately, however, the vast majority of the searchers are for abiding by the law, and it is likely that their counsel will prevail. There is frequent expression that should the negro be captured that the $,000 reward money should be turned over to the widow and orphans of the murdered man.

The search started Monday morning when it was discovered that Collins slept in Oakboro Sunday night. Within an hour the Anson cars began to arrive. By noon the town was over-run with cars. Stanly citizens joined in the search. The entire section between Oakboro and Stanfield was completely swept by the gathering mob.

Nothing was again heard of him until Tuesday, when he was located near Red Cross. The mob transferred its operation to that section. The numbe rof cars was so great that travelers could not pass through that little town for a long while, The Press man was told.

One band of the party ran upon the negro near the creek just east of Red Cross. They opened fire as they all chased Collins to the ecreek. Twel... ts were fired, and no one took ... unless some of Mr. D. R. Ken... ve sh... sh... om a shotgun stru... effect... ough possible. The ... nedy's ... ots ... am with the poss... ck him, which is t... e clambered fugitive ran upstr... e just behind him. H... out of the water and escaped into the woods. He was not seen again until Wednesday afternoon.

Collins was next seen at Mr. Starnes' home near Millingport. He asked Mr. Pink Sides for a jub on the farm. Mr. Sides suspected that the man was Collins, judging from his general appearance, also the scars on his arm and face. He was barefooted, having lost both shoes in the Red Cross chase Mr. Sides, however, appeared to believe the man's tale that he was running away from his father and was looking for a job. He took the negro to his father's home—Mr. Postelle Sides—and gave him dinner. Mr. Sides said that the negro ate ravenously. While Collins was eating Mr. Pink Sides went over to Millingport and phoned for an officer. As it happened Policeman King, of Norwood, came up about that time and they returned to the house. As the two walked up Collins saw them and started to run. Mr. Sides dived for him and grappled with him. The negro during the scuffle managed to jump a barbed wire fence and tore himself away. Policeman King opened fire upon the fleeing negro but his bullets did not take effect.

The countryside at that time was quiet enough. But as soon as the news began to circulate the whole section was flooded with people within an hour and the search was taken up with fresh vigor, ending only when the officers decided that rest would be of more benefit than a futile search in the darkness.

Columbia, S. C.
State

JUL 24 1924

BRINGS NEGROES TO STATE PRISON

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MURDER CHARGED TO FOUR NEGROES

Former Bootblacks Arrested in Sumter.

ONE ADMITS GUILT

Prisoners Brought to State Penitentiary—Charged With Slaying of Night Watchman.

Special to The State.

Sumter, Sept. 2.—Four Negro boys—Robert Long, alias Boy Ham; Levi Belser, alias Buster Belser; Laney Jones and Irving Thomas—arrested this morning charged with the murder of Night Watchman J. M. DuBose early Saturday morning, were removed from the Sumter county jail this afternoon and taken to the state penitentiary at Columbia for safe keeping, when there was talk during the day of a mob's making an attempt tonight to secure the Negroes.

The State

Report had it that citizens in the Sardinia and Turbeville sections, from which Mr. DuBose came, were much incensed and it was deemed best to avert any trouble by removal of the Negroes, especially as the Sumter jail is an old one and not in condition to repel an attack.

9-3-24

Three of the Negroes, Long, Jones and Belser, were arrested early this morning, after they boarded an Atlantic Coast Line train to go North. The arrest was made L. T. DeChamps, special Atlantic Coast Line officer, who was working on the case in conjunction with W. W. Rogers, state detective, and local officers. The other Negro was taken in charge about three miles west of town about noon, when he was pointed out to Joel King, white, by a Negro as one of the boys wanted by the police and was delivered to officers just as the coroner's jury returned its verdict fixing the charge of murder upon the four. All of the Negroes are under 20 and all were formerly bootblacks at the Atlantic Coast Line station.

The state detective was called in on the case yesterday afternoon and with the chief of Sumter police, other local officers and the railroad detective began work at once upon the case. Word from a Negro woman that she had overheard the Negro boys talking of making their getaway and an account from a Negro man of their endeavor to sell him a box of cigars and some cigarettes supplied the first clue. All trains leaving Monday night were watched, but only one of the four boys wanted was seen. This morning, however, Long Jones and Belser, were seen getting on the Wilmington train just as it was leaving and Mr. DesChamps, on the lookout for them, took them into custody. The arrest of the fourth, Irving Thomas, was made later.

At the jail Belser after first telling officers that he and his companions had not been in town the night of the murder but had instead broken into a store at Florence, made a full confession, saying that he and Thomas were placed on watch on either side of the store while Long or Ham and Laney Jones broke into the building. He saw Mr. DuBose, the night watchman, cross the street from the planing mill, Belser said, and heard five or six shots. He then ran and later met his three companions, who invited him to go to Florence with them, he said. He refused, however, but the next morning accompanied Long to sell the cigarettes and cigars taken from the store. The loot officers recovered from the Negro woman to whom Belser said the sale had been made.

Belser did not know which of the two in the store fired the fatal shots, he said, but named Laney Jones as the leader of the group. At Jones' house, however, officers found a 38 caliber pistol such as was used against the night watchman. The pistol, Jones said, belonged to his mother, according to Detective Rogers, but the woman denied ownership of it, declaring that her son had told her he had found it.

The arrest of the alleged murderers of Mr. Dubose has given general satisfaction here, as his murder has provoked much discussion and it was generally hoped those who shot him could be apprehended and brought to trial.

The four Negroes were brought to the penitentiary for safe keeping yesterday afternoon, according to A. M. Scarborough, superintendent of the institution. They were admitted at about 4 o'clock.

AVERTS LYNCHING, GRANT BELIEVES

Phillips and Brewer Brothers at State Prison.

COMMUNITY INCENSED

Lynching Feared

Citizens in Chesterfield County Aroused Over Violation of Laws,

Special to The State.

Chesterfield, July 22.—Tom Phillips, white, and Brutus Brewer and "Doug" Brewer, negro brothers, charged with the murder of H. B. Graves late rural policeman of this county, were removed from the county jail last night by Sheriff James T. Grant, and taken to the state penitentiary for safekeeping.

Shortly after the sheriff and his prisoners left town a number of cars gathered in the vicinity of the jail from the western section of the county.

The sheriff evidently had advance warning and had left town with the prisoners.

It had been known for some days that indignation was great in this county on account of the killing of Policeman Graves by alleged bootleggers and when yesterday it was rumored that bail was to be allowed the prisoners today, sentiment formed against allowing the prisoners their liberty.

Reliable information to the effect that the lynching of Tom Phillips and the Brewer brothers was planned by a group of Chesterfield county citizens was received by Sheriff Grant on his return home Monday night, the Chesterfield county sheriff said yesterday afternoon. The time set for the assault of the jail and the taking over of the three prisoners was 1 o'clock Monday morning, he said. Mr. Grant had left with the three alleged slayers of the Pageland officer some two and a half hours before.

The Chesterfield sheriff arrived at his home about 8:30 o'clock from Columbia, where he had been in connection with the holding of Mortimer King. A citizen, whose name he did not wish to divulge, notified him, Mr. Grant said, of the contemplated lynching.

Quick to Respond.

Not long afterwards the sheriff went to the jail and told the three prisoners to "get up and get on your clothes for I am going to take you for a ride," and they, according to the Chesterfield officer, were quick to respond. A visit to another friend was necessary before he and Rural Policeman B. F. Black, who came with Mr. Grant, were able to set out for Columbia with their three charges, Mr. Black said. When they did start toward the state capital, the sheriff did not come by way of the Camden road for fear that he might be stopped, but went around by Bishopville and Darlington. He arrived at the penitentiary about 3:45 o'clock, and after notifying B. E. Evans, captain of the penitentiary guards, of his arrival, the Chesterfield officer placed his three prisoners in the care of penitentiary authorities for safekeeping.

It is not merely a resentment against the three alleged slayers of Graves that has been harboring in the breasts of Chesterfield citizens, Mr. Grant said, but an opposition to a band of bootleggers who seem determined to evade the law even at the cost of the lives of officers. The Chesterfield persons are incensed over this attitude, according to the sheriff, and desire to see the laws enforced.

A lynching would probably never have been considered, Mr. Grant said, had not the citizens of Chesterfield learned that the release of the men under bond was being considered. Mr. Grant was told in a letter from C. L. Prince, attorney for the three, that a hearing in regards to the release of Phillips and the Brewer brothers was to be had before a judge in Columbia yesterday. It is Mr. Grant's belief that the people of the community feared that if the prisoners were released, some one would kill one of them, one of the prisoners would probably retaliate and a vicious circle of killings and counter killings would be set in motion.

Best Class of People.

When asked as to the class of persons that planned to take part in the contemplated lynching, Mr. Grant replied: "The very best people would have done the work had it been done. There would have been no roughnecks in the crowd."

The three prisoners will be kept here until they are released on bond, or until the spirit in Chesterfield county changes, according to Mr. Grant. Phillips, he said, is of a good family with considerable property holdings.

The white man and the two negroes were placed in individual cells on the east side of the fourth tier of the cell block, Captain Evans said.

NEGROES MOVED FOR FEAR OF MOB

Columbia, S. C., September 2.—Four negroes, arrested today at Sumter, S. C., and charged by a coroner's jury with the slaying early Friday morning of John M. Dubose, night watchman employed by the Sumter Planing mills, were brought to Columbia late today and placed in the state penitentiary for safekeeping.

Attacked

Consolidation

The negroes were arrested as they prepared to board an outgoing train, it was stated. Belzer, according to officers, made a complete confession, implicating others,

Considerable hostility toward the prisoners manifested itself in the community following the arrests, and after a conference, officers decided to remove the negroes to the state penitentiary as a precautionary measure.

9-3-24

The bullet-pierced body of Dubose was found early Friday morning in a small store near the planing mills. It was believed the watchman was killed by burglars whom he surprised in the act of robbing the store.

Officers are said to have stated that a quantity of cigarettes, alleged to have been stolen from the store was recovered today after the arrests.

Columbia, S.C.
State
JUL 23 1924

AVERTS LYNCHING, GRANT BELIEVES

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Lynchings — 1924.
Prevented.

Tennessee

1658

Negroes And Whites Form Threatening Mob

ALLEGED SLAYER OF AGED NEGRO OBJECT OF HOSTILE DEMONSTRATION.—CAPTURED ENROUTE TO CHATTANOOGA HOME.—MARKED DOLLAR FOUND IN POSSESSION.

Athens, Tenn., Dec. 29.—Quiet prevails here following a night of rioting on the part of a large group of negroes and whites who expressed themselves as determined to lynch John Arnold, held in the McMinn County jail on the charge of slaying Joseph Wilson, aged colored citizen of this place, on last Monday night.

Sheriff Ivans walked to where the crowd was congregating and calmly warned them against any efforts to attack the jail. The sheriff's talk resulting in the crowd dispersing and no further demonstration was shown by the members of the mob as a whole, but individuals were loud in their denunciation of what is considered one of the most brutal murders in the history of the county.

CUT MAN'S THROAT WITH RAZOR

Joseph Wilson, well known and respected, lived near the outskirts of the town. His body was found in his home early Monday with a gash across his throat which almost severed his head. The aged man's son told officers of having seen Arnold in the home talking to Wilson. The clue was taken up by Sheriff Ivans and Arnold was traced to the station where he purchased a ticket for Chattanooga. The sheriff of Bradley county was notified to meet the Memphis Special Monday night and there he arrested Arnold, and found that his hand was bleeding, his shirt sleeves bloody and blood was on one of his knees. It is believed that he knelt on the body of the aged man after cutting his throat with a razor. It is charged that a marked silver dollar said to have been in the possession of the aged man, was found in Arnold's pocket.

The preliminary hearing resulted in Arnold being bound to criminal court without bond.

Chattanooga News 1-3-24
Knoxville, Tenn.

Knoxville Tenn Sentinel

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST MOB

CHATTANOOGA, June 30. Precaution against mob violence was taken by police and county officers Saturday night when L. B. Brooks, 33, a negro, was in the county jail on a charge of attempted criminal assault on the person of Mrs. L. F. Freeman, at her home, 405 West Eighth street. The negro was arrested by Motorcycle Officers Smith and Anderson, following a chase of several blocks.

Lynchings - 1924.
Prevented.

Tennessee.

1659

MEMPHIS, TENN. Press

RALEIGH, N. C. Times

JUL 29 1924

NEGRO SLAYER WILL BE KEPT AT CITY JAIL

Take No Chance on Escape Of Confessed Killer Of Three

No chance will be taken with Charles Barr, negro, confessed slayer. The negro was taken back to the city jail late Tuesday night for safe keeping after spending eight hours in the county bastile.

He will probably be held in the city jail until trial. Officers wish to take no chance of the negro escaping. The city jail is considered the stronger of the two.

Deny Suicide Attempt

City and county jail attaches denied Wednesday that Barr had made any attempt on his life. Rumors were afloat Tuesday night that the negro had tried to hang himself in his cell.

Barr confessed he killed Duncan Waller and Mrs. Ruth McElwain Tucker on a lonely road, Jan. 28, 1923. He also confessed to killing W. Obe Spencer and wounding Miss Laura Wheaton Johnson.

Evidence Strengthened

Evidence, calculated to place the negro in the electric chair, even without his confessions, was strengthened late Tuesday when Mrs. Pearl Duvall McElwain, the slain girl's mother, identified a ring found in Barr's possession as the one stripped from her daughter's hand after she had been murdered.

The identification was made at Mrs. McElwain's home, Bowling Green, Ky. Detective Sergeant John Long took the ring there Tuesday and will return Wednesday with sworn identification statements from Mrs. McElwain and the jeweler who sold the ring to Mrs. Tucker.

der Guard of Troops, Removed To State Penitentiary; Joyner's Body Found

By BLACKBURN W. JOHNSON
(Staff Correspondent)

NASHVILLE, July 29.—Though probably he aspires to no such prominence, Sheriff Charley L. Johnson, of Nash County, is the hero of North Carolina today. He earned that position of honor yesterday by preventing North Carolina's fair name from being darkened with the smudge of a lynching.

Except for Sheriff Johnson's sagacious strategy the body of Cheatham Evans, negro, arrested yesterday morning near Hollister, Halifax County, in connection with the death of Arthur L. Joyner, Hollister taxi-driver, might have been dangling at the end of a rope from the limb of a tree this morning. As it is, Cheatham Evans is in the safest place in North Carolina for him—State's Prison at Raleigh.

Exciting developments have come thick and fast in Halifax and Nash Counties since Saturday night when a negro called at the home of Arthur Joyner and asked him to drive him a piece in the country.

Countryside In Arms

The little village of Hollister in a lumbering and agricultural district was bestirred the next morning when Mrs. Hollister told her neighbors her husband had not returned. A search was started, resulting Sunday only in the finding of the rubber mat of his automobile in a creek south of the town.

Monday the town and the countryside was incensed at the thought of foul play involving one of its most popular citizens, for that Arthur Joyner was.

When the news spread that Cheatham Evans, a 23-year-old negro with sallow tan complexion, employed by the Hollister Lumber Co., had been arrested and that on his person were found Joyner's watch and pocket knife, the town and the countryside were up in arms.

Followed By Crowd

After the negro's arrest by Deputy W. T. Mitchell, four other deputies put him in an automobile and started with him to the nearest and strongest jail, that of Nash County, at Nashville, 24 miles distant.

But the wrought-up Halifax County folk were not to be thrown off the trail so easily. Into their Fords they got and followed the car bearing the object of their surge of vengeance.

The deputies straddled the road and thus kept the crowd's leaders from getting in front and calling a halt. But this could not keep up all the way to Nashville.

At Taylor's store, at a bend in the road nine miles from Nashville, the deputies met Sheriff Johnson with some of his deputies, who had received word of the trouble. There the cars halted, while the wrathful mob crowded about the officers and the wanted negro.

Feeling Intense

The negro was put to questions under the direction of Sheriff Johnson with the aid of the other officers while the crowd swarmed about, its feeling ever growing more intense. Its vengeance was only stayed by thep romise of Sheriff Johnson, who assumed entire command of the field, that no immediate attempt would be made to move the negro while he was questioned about the crime.

With four or five hundred angry men armed with shotguns, rifles, pistols, blackjacks and cudgels, swarming about him, the negro maintained steadfast silence and answered all accusing questions with shakes of his head and meek negative replies.

Seeing that nothing could be obtained from the negro, the mob standing about every ready to pounce upon him, and realizing that at any moment the crowd might set upon the purpose of taking the whole affairs into its own hands, Sheriff Johnson conferred with some of its leaders and got their permission to take the negro into the store for further questioning while the crowd remained outside.

In Tight Place

Had the sheriff made any attempt to take the negro away, to break through the crowd and speed on to Nashville, there would have been one certain result, in the minds of the wiser members of the community. Cheatham Evans would have been killed in some way, the pent up wrath that Sheriff Johnson had been humoring would have broken with a bang.

But Sheriff Johnson gave the crowd his promise he would not attempt to break and run. The mob wanted to know where to find the body of the dead taxi driver. This search that resulted in the finding of the automobile mat Sunday had been fruitless so far as finding Joyner's body, or the car itself.

Searched For Body

Sheriff Johnson shrewdly grasped the opportunity. After he and his aides had been in the store questioning Evans for over an hour, while the mob's impatience approached the breaking point, the sheriff sent a spokesman out with the announcement that the negro had told where Joyner's body could be found. Evans, the spokesman said, while not confessing part to the crime, had told the officers he knew something about it. Ernest Lee, the spokesman, told the crowd Evans had remarked Saturday night that he had "gotten him a man and thrown him in Fishing Creek near Martin's bridge."

Anxious for action, half of the crowd left the store and went on a search for Joyner's body. Thus, Sheriff Johnson by sounding the psychology of the mob, saw how to divert its intention and prevent fulfillment of its purpose.

In the meantime the sheriff had telephoned the Governor's office at Raleigh and asked for troops.

After several hours of fruitless searching up and down the banks of Fishing Creek, according to persons who went on that expedition, the fury of the mob began to show again. The crowd back at Taylor's store was waiting anxiously for news from the searching party. Every car that came from Hollister was stopped and its passengers questioned for information as to the progress of the search.

It was 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon when word came back to Taylor's store that the searchers were about to abandon the hunt for the body and return to the store.

Mob Well Armed

Nearly three hundred persons were gathered in front of the store. Two more negroes—Elijah Lynch and George Brown—thought possibly to be accomplices in the murder of Joyner, had been arrested and were also being held in the store. The crowd was not altogether one with intent of lynching. A large number of onlookers helped swell its numbers. More than a dozen sheriffs and deputies from Nash, Halifax and adjoining counties were seen here and there passing in and out of the crowd, conferring with a small knot of men here and then returning into the store. Firearms were not very much in evidence at that time, but as the members of the searching party returned it was seen that the mob was well armed.

Troops Work Fast

While the crowd was swelling and feeling was becoming more intense a big Packard automobile sped on the scene and a squad of khaki clad boys fell into formations. Other cars pulled up back of the Packard and in a few minutes Machine Gun Company M of Wilson, with about fifty-five men, commanded by Capt. J. C. Dempsey, marched upon the scene. Two machine guns were mounted in front of the store and one in the rear while a fourth was kept in reserve.

The cars went up the road, swung around and came back. Before the crowd knew what was up, Cheatham Evans was being marched out of the store between two rows of bayonets. In a moment he was being sped up the road towards Raleigh.

Crucial Moment Passed

Thus the crucial moment of the disturbance in Nash and Halifax counties yesterday was passed. And Sheriff Johnson deserves the credit of the day. Without pulling his gun into play a single time, without the display of the bravadosio commonly thought of in connection with such occurrences, he frustrated the purpose of a mob which ranged in size during the day from 200 to 500 men. He did it by stalling, or bluffing, if you like: by out-talking and out-reasoning his mob.

Had the troops not arrived before the entire searching delegation of the mob had returned, there still might have been a lynching. But the troops got there in time and the mob was not so intent of its purpose as to face four machine guns an a company of soldiers.

The crowd gradually dwindled about the store. Elijah Lynch and Ernest Lee, whom Evans thrust the brunt of the crime upon, and George Brown and Walter Lee, two negores arrested later in connection with the affair, were removed from the store. A fifth negro, Tom Lee, was arrested late in the afternoon at Hollister.

Today, Elijah Lynch and Walter Evans were being held as witness in the Nash county jail until they raised bond, and Ernest Lee, Tom Lee and George Brown were being held in the Halifax county jail.

Find Joyner's Body

Tuesday's final climax came with the finding of the body of Arthur Joyner in the creek near where Cheatham Evans had said it had been thrown. Joyner had been shot with a shotgun, officers said, and the body was badly mutilated. It appeared that he was shot from the rear.

Joyner leaves a widow and five daughters, the oldest of which is 14.

Later Joyner's car was found near where Cheatham Evans was arrested. Flesh and blood was found in the bottom of the machine.

Sheriff Johnson today said a charge of murder probably would be brought against Evans.

Second Mob Frustrated

Yesterday was the second time Sheriff Johnson has broken up a probable lynching this year, the other time having been last November, when a negro charged with attacking a white woman near Little Washington was being held in the Nash county jail. On both occasions he broke up the lynchings by persuasion with his mob. Had Cheatham Evans been lynched, it would have been the first lynching in North Carolina in three years.

Large crowds of men walked and talked about the streets of Hollister last night, it was reported here, and once or twice it seemed that an attempt would be made to seize the negroes arrested suspected as accomplices of Cheatham Evans, who then were held in the Hollister jail, but who later were removed to the Halifax county jail. But the night passed without the crowd bringing to a culmination its vengeance, and North Carolina's fair name was not besmudged with another lynching.

Woman Who Killed Law Student Moved To Avoid Trouble

Lebannon, Tenn., November 20.—Mrs. Pearl Baskin, charged with murder in connection with the death of Paul Patterson, Springfield, Mo., a law student at Cumberland university, who died here early this morning as the result of a bullet wound inflicted last night at Mrs. Baskin's home, was taken to Nashville tonight for the purpose, Sheriff Reeves said, of avoiding possible trouble with students of the university.

Threats and disorder had occurred among the students, Sheriff Reeves said he thought it best to remove Mrs. Baskin, inasmuch as Patterson's fellow students were obviously aroused over the killing.

Mrs. Baskin will be held in Nashville, the sheriff said, to await further action after the arrival there of Judge Roscoe Patterson, father of the slain youth, who was expected to arrive in Nashville tonight.

R. H. Swann, of Knoxville, Tenn., who said last night that he found Patterson wounded, lying on a sawdust pile about 500 yards from the Baskin home, and who was held in jail last night as a material witness, was released this afternoon under $250 bond. It is understood that the preliminary trial of Mrs. Baskin will be held immediately if Judge Patterson decides upon such a course.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

Texas.

1657

Houston Texas Post
FEB 28 1924

SHERIFF GUARDS NEGRO SLAYER AS TROOPS GATHER

Crowd Assails Door With Steel Rail; Deputies Reply With Shots While Black Moans for Life; Leading Citizens Quiet Passions; Gov. Neff Orders Guard Unit From Nacogdoches

LUFKIN, Texas, Feb. 27.—With passions inflamed because of the murder of Andy Sulser, commissary keeper, four members of a mob were wounded here tonight when it swept down upon the Angelina Co. jail and attempted to lynch Booker T. Williams, negro, Sulser's self-confessed slayer. Sheriff R. B. Watts, who with six deputies had barricaded himself in the jail opened fire on the men swarming around the jail after he had warned them that the prisoner could not be taken except after a gunbattle. The shots were fired as the frenzied crowd, which had overridden calm counsel, was attempting to batter down the jail door with a steel railroad rail.

The attack came shortly after Judge L. D. Guinn had called a special session of the grand jury which indicted the negro and had set his trial on a murder charge for Saturday.

The shots of the sheriff drove the mob away and at midnight it was reported that a unit of the National Guard at Nacogdoches, 21 miles away, ordered out by Governor Pat M. Neff, was on its way to Lufkin to take charge of the situation. But at midnight the situation had again become normal. Though there were 300 men in the mob which later was augmented to 500, less than 50 were on the street at this hour.

None of the four wounded was seriously injured. Two received face and scalp wounds, one was shot through the shoulder and one through the hand.

Sulser was slain Tuesday night when an attempt was made to rob the commissiary of which he was in charge, located five miles from Lufkin. The negro was arrested by Ben F. Smith, former ranger.

The negro confessed the crime, officers said when a pistol and a bloody shirt were brought to the county jail and shown to him. Smith also obtained a statement from the negro's sister and brother-in-law which added evidence to the accused's guilt.

Fearing that a lynching would result, Judge Guinn at once called a special session of the grand jury. After doing this he talked to Captain Blake on the telephone and then called Governor Neff acquainting him with the situation.

Sheriff Watts also felt that trouble was due and requested that Sheriff Tom Baught of Nacogdoches and his deputies come to his assistance.

In the court room and later on the street, E. J. Mantooth, local attorney, pleaded with men who were gathering even then to let the law take its course and not do anything violent.

But in spite of this the mob gathered. As the hours advanced and its numbers grew greater it grew more angry. The negro had taken a white man's life and with his life he should pay.

It was whispered around that the sheriff would offer only passive resistance; that he would give up to them the negro to do with as they pleased. Darkness came on and with it the woods poured out its workers. Business men joined the throng.

Move on Jail.

At 8 o'clock the mob moved toward the jail, the leaders bunched in front and the more timid straggling out behind. In the march the steel rail was gathered up by strong men. At the jail door the crowd halted. There was a moment's hesitation and then with a dull thud the end of the heavy rail manned by strong hands crashed against the jail door. Within the negro cowered, mumbling prayers.

"Oh, God!" he cried. "Don't let them get me!" Again the dull thud and the echoes of the negro's cries.

And then Sheriff Bates stepped to a window of the jail. He looked out on the faces of neighbors and friends; many were in the crowd who had aided to place him in office—more than half of them he called by their first names. They elected him to do his duty and enforce the law. And at that moment they received the measures of the man they had elected.

"Boys," he called, and his voice was soft and kindly. "Get away from that door. This nigger is my prisoner. The law will deal with him swiftly and surely."

A hush fell on the crowd. No man moved.

A cricket in some crevice nearby chirped. Its homely voice sounded piercingly loud. The only moving figure was a belated mule hurrying to the jail. His form made a fitting blur against the lights of the town.

A restless movement began to seethe through the mob.

"Boys," and the voice of the sheriff held the chill of dawn, "if any one tries to break into this jail I am going to shoot."

A moment more of indecision and the steel rail again pounded against the jail door.

Mingling with the echo, yet making almost one sound an automatic blazed.

Cries frrom the wounded filled the air, but above them all could be heard the supplicating scream of the negro. With four of their number wounded the would-be lynchers moved back toward the center of the town.

Three Deputies Desert.

In the jail with the sheriff were six deputies, each well armed. But with the going of the mob three of them deserted, leaving four besides the sheriff to keep the vigil.

As the crowd moved away from the jail it began to mill near the center of the business district. But an eye was kept open to see that the negro was not stolen away from them.

Wild talk began to run riot. The crowd grew and grew until the business district seemed choked with humanity. From the pine woods lumberjacks and lumbermen had heard of the storming of the jail and joined the maddened throng.

The mutterings grew loud. Talk of dynamiting the jail grew rampant and it seemed for a time that the sheriff and those deputies who remained at their posts must withstand the shock of a high explosive bomb or die with their black charge.

And while it went on the sheriff sat grimly in the jail. For a space, at least, not knowing but what he had killed a neighbor or a friend, but ready, nevertheless, if necessary, to repeat his actions.

The fury of the mob was added to by the report that the fire from the jail had killed one or more of its members.

But Judge Mantooth, who had counseled the crowds to caution all through the day, moved from one knot of gesticulating figures to another, talking to them. He told them none was badly hurt and advised them to disperse to their homes.

Through his efforts, perhaps, another assault was not made on the jail.

While this was being done, reinforcements joined Sheriff Watts in the jail. These for the most part were deputies to Sheriff Baught of Nacogdoches.

At 5 o'clock in the afternoon Sheriff Watts, feeling certain that trouble was due, appealed to the Nacogdoches officer for aid, which was given promptly.

A little later, Judge Guinn called Captain Blake at Nacogdoches, asking him to bring over the unit of the National Guard stationed there. Captain Blake replied that he could not move without instructions from the adjutant general. But being certain that he would be called, he began to assemble his men, and at 10 o'clock when Governor Neff called him over the telephone, ordering that he move to Lufkin, he had half his troop ready. The rest were quickly assembled and mounted in automobiles and, fully equipped as to arms, the unit moved just before midnight.

The instructions to Captain Blake were to restore order and see that the law is enforced.

The negro had just been informed that he had been indicted by the special grand jury and would be tried Saturday when the rail first struck the jail door.

NEGRO GIVEN DEATH

Williams Pleads Guilty to Killing of Sulser; Sentenced to Be Electrocuted April 4.

Widow of Slain Man Is Present, Apparently Emotionless, as Verdict Is Announced.

March 1924

Houston Post Special.

LUFKIN, Texas, March 1. Booker T. Williams, negro, sentenced to death here at 5:15 Saturday afternoon for the murder of Andy Sulser, commissary keeper, was expected to arrive in Houston at 7 a. m today in charge of Texas rangers. The negro, guarded by the rangers, will be here for a short time before boarding a Southern Pacific train for Huntsville. The date of his execution was set for April 4.

Throughout the trial and sentencing of Williams, Mrs. Sulser, widow of the slain man, sat in the court room, dry-eyed, and showing no emotion. The conclusion of the trial ended the most tense period in the city's history.

Sulser was killed Tuesday. Wednesday the negro confessed. That afternoon he was indicted and during the evening a mob formed. It stormed the jail, attempting to take him from Sheriff R. V. Watts, who answered with gunfire, wounding three. For hours hundreds of men milled in the streets, but with the coming of the National Guard, late in the day, and rangers Friday the excitement subsided.

Enters Guilty Plea.

Williams entered a plea of guilty shortly after 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Four hours later he was sentenced to die.

During the entire course of the trial he made only one request. He asked that his body be sent to Keechie, La., for burial.

When sentence was pronounced, through his attorneys, Tom F. Coleman and E. J. Cohn, appointed by the court, he waived his right of two days of grace in order to file a motion for a new trial.

The hearing went on under the protection of State rangers and the militia. None except those having business there were allowed in the court room. But two blocks away a crowd formed that filled the long squares. Back and forth before the throng the soldiers marched to prevent any from breaking over an agreed "dead-line." But at no time was there a demonstration.

When the court had adjourned the crowd broke up and scattered to its members' various occupations. The sentiment seemed to be that the negro got is just deserts and got them in a legal way.

Rangers in Command.

The rangers were in personal command of Adjutant General Thomas D. Barton, and with the sentencing of the negro he said that he would be taken to the penitentiary at once.

The task of choosing a jury began early in the day. Forty-two men were examined before 12 were selected as qualified to sit. But of the 42 only one said he was opposed to capital punishment. Many of the others excused told the court that they had strong prejudices in case and that evidence introduced by the defendant probably would not change it.

Two hours and 30 minutes were used in argument. The State demanded the death penalty. F. P. Marshall, district attorney, made the closing argument for the State. He was preceded by Judge Coleman, who dwelt at length on the Bible verse, "thou shalt not kill!" He pleaded long and earnestly that the jury send Williams to the penitentiary for life. But it was without avail.

Sixteen minutes after Judge L. D. Guinn charged the jury and excused it, it returned a verdict of death.

The words that tolled his death knell left the negro unmoved. As the jury came in he looked at each man and that was all the interest he took in the proceedings.

Mrs. Sulser sat near the bar. As it was decreed that the negro who took her husband's life must pay with the blood of his life she never moved.

Lynchings—1924. Virginia. 1655

Prevented

Angry Mob Storms Jail Finds Prisoner Removed

(By The Associated Negro Press)

ROCKY MOUNT, Va., Feb. 19.—A mob which formed outside of the jail here in an effort to get hold of Daity Gilbert, sentenced to 20 years in prison for criminal assault, was disappointed when some of its members who were allowed to explore the jail by the sheriff returned with the information that the prisoner had been removed.

Sheriffs Prevent Lynching Prisoner

Mob violence would decrease if public officials followed the example of the Rocky Mount, Va., officers, who prevented the lynching of Ote Gilbert, a Negro sentenced to 20 years for criminal assault, the American Civil Liberties Union declares in a statement issued today.

According to a letter received by the Union from J. P. Lee, public prosecutor at Rocky Mount, a mob formed outside the jail to lynch Gilbert, but dispersed when they found that any attempt to take the prisoner would result in a number of people being killed.

"The officers were determined to go to any length in the protection of the prisoner, even to the sacrifice of their lives," Mr. Lee's letter to the Civil Liberties Union declares. "The result of the whole matter was satifactory. The Negro was saved from lynching, and nobody was hurt."

ASSAULT BY NEGROES FATAL TO OLD FARMER

Fredericksburg, Va., July 31.—Richard Campbell, 65, Caroline countian farmer who was the victim last night of an attack by two negroes, died this afternoon as a result of the beating administered by his assailants and from effects of burns sustained in escaping from his burning dwelling.

Neighbors, attracted to Campbell's home early this morning by fire which completely destroyed the building, found the aged farmer badly beaten and burned and wounded in the leg. A physician was immediately summoned, but all efforts to save the man's life proved futile when he succumbed to his injuries late this afternoon.

Two young negroes, Fritz Lewis and Otto Clear, arrested today by officers who surrounded them in a wooded section, near Rixey Crossing, have confessed committing the attack, officials say. They have been taken to the Henrico county jail at Richmond for safe-keeping.

It had been reported that Campbell kept a large amount of money constantly in his house and robbery is attributed as the motive of the attack, which was one of the most brutal ever to be recorded in this state.

Possibly A Lynching Was Averted

Judge White's prompt order directing the transfer of a colored man suspected of an atrocious attack upon a white farmer and his wife of Princess Anne County from the jail at Virginia Beach to the Norfolk city jail was the kind of precaution which oftimes frustrates the purpose of mobs, saves communities the disgrace of a lynching and preserves the law inviolate. His action was worthy of commendation.

It is believed that sentiment against mob violence, fostered by the press and responsible citizens, has appreciably increased in this State since Virginia was disgraced by a lynching last spring. Nevertheless, it is necessary and proper that officers of the law, in every case where the crime is of such a nature as to provoke community wrath, take prompt measures to safeguard any person suspected of the deed, until sentiment gains an opportunity to cool hot heads. According to the principle of our law, the Princess Anne county suspect is innocent until proved guilty by the courts, before which he is entitled to his day regardless of the atrociousness of the crime of which he is suspected.

The Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot* uttered a timely admonition when it said: "Princess Anne county can afford to have no traffic with mob violence. The situation arising out of the axe atrocity calls for cool heads."

The proper time to seek to allay public wrath is before it has culminated into a lynching. It is highly possible that such will prove more effective in preserving the law than the denouncing of the act after it has been committed. No doubt, if in every case where the press carries on its front pages a harrowing story of an atrocious assault upon an individual and of the hunt of the posse, it would at the same time devote some editorial space cautioning "cool heads" in the case of a capture, more lynchings would be averted.

ppened In Virginia here Was No Lynching

ROANOKE, Va., July 9.—Roanoke, following the example of the north, has evidently forsaken the hempen rope and the before-the-war reign of "King Lynch."

This fact was made evident last week, when policemen, arresting Albert Robinson, alleged desperado, had two of their number killed outright and a third officer was seriously wounded. Contrary to general belief, the newspapers did not publish a story to the effect that excitement was rife and that a lynching was threatened.

Robinson was caught near Goodview, Va., brought to Roanoke, returned to Lynchburg, and is now in Richmond. Officials on the case are silent.

RACE TROUBLE THOT BREWING IN ROANOKE

Bitter Feeling follows Death Of Two Dry Officers In A Raid

HIGHER-UP WHITES FLEE RACE YOUTH CAUGHT

Prisoner Hustled From Roanoke To Lynchburg In Fast Automobile

Roanoke, Va.—A race riot seemed eminent here following war between officers and bootleggers this week.

Heavily armed patrolmen raided a shack on [illegible] Street, knocking on the door and calling on the inmates to open. Instead, someone opened fire, killing two white officers and wounding a third.

Investigation led to the arrest of Albert Robinson, charged with the murder of the two officers and attempted murder of the third. He will be indicted by special Grand Jury and tried sometime this month.

The arrest of Robinson lead to threats of lynching and he was hustled into an automobile and taken to Lynchburg for safe keeping.

The sentiment here is that Robinson was a member of a bootlegging gang, including a number of white higher-ups who have escaped, leaving him in the toils.

Trouble developed when a mysterious telephone call was received at police headquarters about five o'clock Wednesday, saying that someone had unloaded whiskey at the home of a man named Whitten.

When the police attempted to enter, the shooting occurred. There was no whiskey found in the house.

Subsequent to the shooting, Robinson escaped by riding freight trains, but was later captured after the offer of $500 reward stirred persons in all sections of the state to look for the accused man.

Negro [illegible] Removed.

Lynchburg, Va., July 4.—(AP)—Albert Robinson, Roanoke negro gunman charged with the murder of two policemen and the wounding of another during a dry raid there last Wednesday, was brought to the city jail here last night for safekeeping, it was learned today. While local officials declined to make any statements, it was ascertained that plainclothes men escorted the prisoner here from Roanoke as a precautionary measure.

Lynchings—1924.
Prevented.

Virginia.

1656

TIMELY ARRIVAL OF POLICE SAVES MAN FROM MOB

Lynching Narrowly Averted Within Sight Of National Capitol

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6.—Three Alexandria policemen saved James Miles, colored, from a mob of about 150 people which was threatening to lynch him a mile and a half south of Accotink, Va. Miles is alleged to have cut E. A. Leary's throat. Leary is a grocer in Accotink. Six other people including a girl and two women, are being held by the police. Miles was captured in less than an hour after the attack by a small band of deputies led by bloodhounds. In the meantime a mob had formed and surrounded the prisoner. Several of the men carried ropes and a talk of lynching was general. Officers from Alexandria arrived and with drawn pistols covered the mob and took Miles to the police station.

It is alleged that Miles went into Leary's store to buy a sandwich and while Leary had his back turned he slipped a pair of gloves in his pocket. The two got into a dispute over the gloves and Leary chased Miles from the store with a meat clever. Just outside of the door Leary's throat was cut. Miles denies the charge although he admits having words with Leary about a pair of gloves.

Sheriff Moves Prisoner Fearing A Lynching

Winchester, Va.—Believing that a plot was being hatched to lynch [illegible], chauffeur convicted of driving a car which killed two white men and injured a white woman here recently, the prisoner was secretly removed to the Harrisonburg jail.

Lynchings - 1924.
Prevented.

Texas.

1655

1 KILLED, 4 SHOT IN ATTACK ON JAIL

Posse of Special Officers Defend Negro Accused of Murder From Assault of Mob.

Lufkin, Texas, February 27.—One man was killed and a 17-year-old boy and three other men were seriously wounded when the police fired into a mob which stormed the Anglina county jail here in an effort to get Booker T. Williams, negro held in connection with the murder of Andy Sulzer at a sawmill commissary five miles south of Lufkin Tuesday night.

Atlanta Constitution 2-28-24

The mob assaulted the jail with a length of railroad rail and after warnings the posse of special officers fired from behind the bars.

A report was current that the officers would offer only passive resistance if an effort was made to get the negro, it is said, and that the effort was made after this report had gained credence. The mob is composed of Lufkin people with a number of farmers and lumbermen from the immediate surrounding country.

B. F. McLeroy was killed instantly when a bullet passed through his head. Willie Wells, 17, and three others were seriously wounded.

There is talk of dynamiting the jail and officers have requested that state troops be sent here from Nacogdoches. Sheriff R. B. Watts has also telephoned to Governor Neff requesting him to send rangers here.

Booker T. McMillian, alias Booker Williams, was captured on a highway today by Ben F. Smith, former state ranger, and placed in jail here. The negro made a statement to officers in which he admitted shooting Sulzer, they said.

Soon after he was placed in jail, a crowd formed and remained in the vicinity of the jail. Sheriff R. V. Watts and E. J. Mantooth, local attorney, appealed to the crowd to keep order and later Mr. Mantooth repeated his appeal.

The special term of district court was called by Judge L. D. Linn and a special grand jury was impaneled tonight to investigate the slaying.

Austin, Tex., February 27.—Governor Neff announced at 9:15 o'clock tonight that he had issued orders for the national guard company at Nacogdoches to proceed at once to Lufkin to take charge of the situation growing out of the attempted storming of the jail there by a mob seeking to lynch a negro held for murder.

FOUR WOUNDED IN TEXAS MOB RIOT

Assault Jail With Railroad Rail to Get Negro Murderer at Lufkin

LUFKIN TEXAS., Feb. 27.—Four men were wounded, none fatally, when officers fired into a mob which stormed the Angelina county jail here tonight in an effort to get Booker T. Williams, negro held in connection with the murder of Andy Sulzer at a saw mill commissary five miles south of Lufkin Tuesday night.

Montgomery Advertiser

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2-28-24

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Three of the wounded are Willie Wells, face wounds; John Hudgins, scalp wound; Bud Davis, wounded in head and arm. The fourth man was not identified.

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CALLS OUT MILITARY

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Places Where Lynchings Were Prevented in 1924.

Places	Date
Alabama:	
Attala	June 15
Montgomery	December 15
Piedmont	September 23
Tuscumbia	June 24
Arkansas:	
Pine Bluff	August 5
Van Buren	January 4
Delaware:	
Wilmington	May 16
Florida:	
Jacksonville	February 12
Georgia:	
Dublin	January 19
Douglass	September 14
Macon	January 1
Valdosta	August 11
Idaho:	
Lewiston	April 4
Illinois:	
Cairo	July 26
Mound City	July 23
Iowa:	
West Union	July 27
Kentucky:	
Bowling Green	January 24
Lexington	February 22
Louisiana:	
Shreveport	September 25
Maryland:	
Leonardtown	November 21
Princess Anne	December 15
Minnesota:	
St. Paul	April 9
Mississippi:	
Brookhaven	October 1
Gulf Port	July 13
Jackson	March 2
Laurel	December 27
Purvis	May 13
Tupelo	March 5
Vicksburg	August 14
Missouri:	
Maysville	March 29
Mexico	February 11
North Carolina:	
Elizabeth City	March 7
Hollister	July 28
Newbern	March 6
Newbern	November 25
Raeford	June 16
Oklahoma:	
Picher	July 21
Pennsylvania:	
Philadelphia	March 10
Charleroi	July 11
South Carolina:	
Silver	July 24
Sumter	September 2
Chesterfield	July 22
Tennessee:	
Lebanon	November 20
Chattanooga	November 30
Texas:	
Lufkin	February 27
Virginia:	
Rocky Mount	February 19

Lynchings-1924.
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Alabama.

ASSAULT ATTEMPTS CHARGED TO NEGRO

Ellis Strawberry Held for Alleged Criminal Attempts on Three Selma White Girls

SELMA, ALA., July 7.—Special by Leased Wire to The Advertiser.—A negro boy giving the unique name of Ellis Strawberry, is in the Dallas county jail charged with entering three homes in the Plantersville neighborhood and attempting assaults on three white girls. The attempts were made on three different nights within the past week.

Deputies M. Fulford and J. E. Gaddy arrested the negro after the former had trailed him all night from Dallas into Autauga county. The arrest was made at an early hour this morning.

The negro is reported to have confessed to Deputy Gaddy that it was his intention to commit a felonious assault in one of the cases with which he is charged, but to have denied knowledge of the others.

HUNT FOR AXE-MAN NEAR BIRMINGHAM CONTINUES

Posse of 800 Scour Country for Murdered of Infant

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 10.—A gruelling man hunt still continues for John Milton, negro convict and axe-man, who is charged with attacking Mrs. Blaney Collins and her eight months old infant daughter near Morris, Ala., yesterday. The child is dead as a result of the axe wounds and Mrs. Collins is in a hospital with a fractured skull.

A posse of armed citizens estimated at 800 men is searching the wooded country in the vicinity of the attack. Mob violence is feared in case of his capture.

Milton was acting as a trusty at a county convict camp near where Mrs. Collins was attacked. He escaped on a stolen horse which he later abandoned. The negro was serving a sentence on conviction of burglary.

NEGRO CONVICT ATTACKS WOMAN

Escaped Convict Injures Two With Axe Near Birmingham; Posse Follows

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Aug. 8.—A quickly organized posse of more than fifty white men, accompanied by all the available deputy sheriffs tonight were scouring the woods surrounding Morris, Ala., for an escaped negro convict, John Milton, who attacked a white woman and her baby daughter with an axe this afternoon.

The woman, Mrs. Blaney Collins and her two and a half year old child are at a local hospital where Mrs. Collins' wounds are considered serious. The baby will probably die.

The attack took place within two miles of the convict camp Number 6, near Morris, where Milton was acting in the capacity of water carrier for the road gang. According to a white man in the vicinity the negro sprang from the brush and hit Mrs. Collins with an axe. Startled by an outcry from the onlooker, the negro struck a similar blow upon the head of the child, mounted a work horse standing nearby and made his getaway.

Milton though only 21 years of age has a criminal record behind him. He was serving a sentence of 18 months and 17 days meted out to him on April 12, 1923 in a burglary case.

Posse Hunts Convict Who Attacked Woman And Baby With Ax

Birmingham, Ala., August 8.—A quickly organized posse of more than 50 white men, accompanied by all the available deputy sheriffs, tonight were scouring the woods surrounding Morris, Ala., for an escaped negro convict, John Milton, who attacked a white woman and her baby daughter with an ax this afternoon.

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NEGRO MEN FREE OF ASSAULT CHARGE

Messrs. Don Gray and Robert Walthall, Negro bell boys at the Petropolitan Hotel, arrested several days ago and charged with making an assault on a young white woman, a guest at the hotel, were discharged by Judge Thomas Roe in the court of misdemeanors Monday when the case was heard. Insufficient evidence was the order of the court, and this being true, both defendants were set free.

According to the complainant's testimony, she was in her room at the hotel and undressed when the two men entered and made advances toward her and because of this alleged attack she had the two men arrested. Her statement was positively refuted by several witnesses who appeared in the defense of the colored men. The defendants did not take the stand during the trial; they were represented by Attorney Thomas J. Judge, a very eminent layer of the city of Birmingham. The prosecution was conducted by Attorney Fred Woodward.

Gray and Walthall are well known men in the city of Birmingham and when the report of the charges against them reached the public it struck their friends with a shock and none have been able to realize just how such a thing could happen, knowing the character and good reputation of these fellows. Now that the matter is settled by regular court decision all feel safe and the confidence established by these young men has been reaffirmed.

SHOT DEAD AFTER ATTACK ON WOMAN

Deputy Sheriff Partin Kills Negro When He Resists on Way to County Jail

Jim Smith, negro, was shot and instantly killed by Deputy Sheriff J. F. Partin in Washington Park, Thursday afternoon, as he struggled to free himself from grasp of the officers who had arrested him a few minutes prior to his death for assaulting a widowed white woman, residing two miles from Washington Park on the Old Hayneville Road, at 11 o'clock Wednesday night.

Deputy Partin, with Deputy Sheriff A. W. Mosley had arrested Smith near the scene of the crime, and after positive identification by the victim, were proceeding to the county jail with the prisoner. At Washington Park, the negro asked that he be allowed to enter a store and speak to his "groceryman."

Deputy Partin stopped the car and told the negro he could not get out of the car, but the groceryman could come to the vehicle and talk. Smith, who was sitting on the front seat with Partin, is said to have determined to go inside the store and began to move out of the car. Deputy Partin said he grabbed the negro by his overall jumper collar and attempted to hold him, Deputy Mosley having gained the ground in the meantime and was lending his assistance in pushing the negro back in the car.

Smith is said by the officers to have grabbed Partin and attempted to pull him out of the car, Partin reached for his pistol. The officers quoted the negro as saying "just as well kill me here as anywhere else" and made a grab for Partin's pistol.

The officer upon gaining the ground partly stumbled over the tongue of a wagon, the negro still making his efforts to gain the pistol. Partin shoved the negro backward and came out with his pistol, emptying the five bullets into the negro's body. Any of the five bullets fired would have proved fatal.

Deputy Mosley was prevented from participation in the fray, inasmuch as the negro managed to have Deputy Parin between him and Mosley. Coroner John J. Diffly after an investigation into the killing rendered a verdict of justifiable homicide.

The crime for which the negro was arrested and which caused his subsequent death, was a particularly heinous one, according to the story told Sheriff Robert C. Phelps and his officers when the woman arrived at the county jail, Thursday morning. She was kept silent from the time of perpetration of the crime until her arrival at the sheriff's office through fear the negro would make good his threat to kill her should she notify authorities.

The woman told Sheriff Phelps she answered a knock at her door, about 1 o'clock Wednesday night to find Smith standing on the threshold. He walked in as the door was opened and immediately told her his purpose, accompanying his declaration with the threat to kill if she should not submit or if she notified officers.

After committing his crime, Smith walked out, the woman continued with a parting threat that he would watch to see if she left to summon aid. She said she waited until after the hour for him to commence his task in the fields before she started out for Montgomery to report the assault.

The woman was positive in her identification as she said she lighted a lamp before going to the door, which she left burning throughout the ordeal. She said she had noticed the negro moving about his residence which is directly opposite her own on the Hayneville road.

She had been a resident at the place for only one week. She resided at the place alone and planned to begin cultivation of a small truck farm.

ATTEMPTED ASSAULT ON GIRL IS LAID TO NEGRO

Dothan Resident Said to Be Victim of Black

DOTHAN, ALA., Nov. 29.—Special to The Advertiser.—Charged with attempted criminal assault on a young white girl, Bess Corbett, a negro was placed in the Houston county jail today by Deputy Sheriff Bradford and Law Enforcement Officers Hughes and Seals. The negro apparently made no effort to leave the community and gave the officers no trouble in coming to jail.

1684

Lynchings-1924.
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Arkansas.

1685

Ex-Convict Jailed For Alleged Attack

TEXARKANA, Ark., Aug. 28 — P. N. S.—James Johnson is in the Texarkana, Tex., jail on charges of having assaulted six race women in the Swampoodle district during the past week. Johnson is said to have served a term in the penitentiary, recently from Cass County. The women say, according to officers, that Johnson threatened to kill them if they reported his attacks.

SPIRITED NEGRO AWAY.

Pine Bluff Officers Prevent Any Possible Mob Violence.

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Sept. 18.—Elbert Randolph, negro, aged about 24, was arrested this morning at 9 o'clock at his home near Noble Lake by Deputy Bryan Vick, Police Officer James Middlebrook and Special Officer John Lyle on a charge of attempting to assault the wife of a prominent white farmer near Noble Lake yesterday afternoon.

The negro was rushed to Pine Bluff and in a very short time he was on his way to Little Rock in the custody of Deputies Sheriff J. L. McBurnett and Henry Williams, where he was placed in the penitentiary about noon today.

According to the report received by the officers, the woman had gone to a pump near her home after a bucket of water. Randolph was standing by the pump and when the woman came up he seized her, dragged her into a shed nearby, attempted to assault her and threatened to kill her and her husband.

She screamed, saying that her husband was coming and broke away from the negro and made a dash for her home. The negro became frightened and ran into the woods.

The sheriff's office was notified shortly after the occurrence and a search for the negro was made for some time last night. The matter was kept quiet and very few people in the vicinity of the outrage knew of its occurrence. This morniing officers went immediately to Randolph's home, where the negro was seen sitting on the front porch. Officers surrounded the place and the negro was arrested in a downpour of rain.

Randolph is alleged to have admitted that he was at the pump and it said to have denied that he had made any improper advances to the woman.

Lynchings—1924.

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Georgia.

1686

POSSE HUNTING NEGRO FOLLOWING ATTACK ON GIRL

Savannah, Ga., May 18.—A posse of citizens and city and county police are tonight searching for a young negro who is charged with attacking an eleven-year-old girl in the woods near Savannah this afternoon.

According to the story told by police officers, the girl, with a small brother and another boy about 14 years old, were held at the point of a revolver. The larger boy finally mustered up courage to make a dash and sprinted across a field to a nearby dairy and gave the alarm. The negro attempted to overtake him and fired upon him. The girl and her little brother escaped when the negro attempted to overhaul the boy going to give the alarm.

The little girl is said to have been badly injured.

Later track hounds picked up a trail in the search for the negro assailant and led the posse to an old well west of the city. It was undetermined whether the fleeing negro had gone into the well. It was learned at that time that the dogs refused to go further.

CHATHAM OFFERS $100 FOR NEGRO IN GIRL'S ATTACK

Savannah, Ga., May 19.—A reward of $100 for the capture of the negro who criminally assaulted an 11-year-old girl late Sunday afternoon in the woods behind the colored section of Laurel Grove cemetery was offered by Sheriff Merritt W. Dixon of Chatham county, who also wrote Governor Walker of the circumstances and requested the state to likewise post a sum for the assailant.

With the beginning of daylight this morning the search was resumed by all the available officers from the county and city police forces, assisted by citizens in great numbers. A general round-up was ordered of all suspicious characters, more than 20 being taken to headquarters or carried to the girl's home for identification, in each instance without securing a sign of recognition from either the girl or her two boy companions.

So far as has been ascertained only two other people saw the negro in the locality either before or after the commission of the crime.

ASSAULT IS CHARGED

Negro Being Held by Savannah Authorities Pending Investigation

SAVANNAH, GA., Aug. 1.—Charged with luring a young white woman from her home on the pretext that a girl friend of hers had been hurt in an automobile accident and attempting criminal assault upon a companion who accompanied the young woman, Ed Heard, a negro, is held in the police barracks tonight pending an investigation.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-S

AUG 2 1924

ATTEMPTED ASSAULT CHARGED TO NEGRO

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According to the story told the police, Heard called at the young woman's home this afternoon and told her that her friend, seriously injured in an accident, had sent for her. The young woman sought a girl friend in the neighborhood to go with her. Heard, the police say, drove them to the country, where the alleged attempted assault took place. The screams of the two women brought aid and Heard was detained by civilians and turned over to the police.

TWO NEGROES HELD

Charged With Attack on White Woman in Georgia.

Atlanta, Aug. 17.—Two Negroes, who attacked a white man about 11 o'clock Saturday night near Constitution, Ga., were captured shortly before daybreak this morning near the scene of the crime and lodged in the Fulton county jail.

The Negroes, who gave the names of Howard Hinton and Sam Tremble, admitted their guilt, according to Sheriff McCurday of DeKalb county. Officers of three counties—DeKalb, Fulton and Clayton—joined in the hunt for the men. The Negroes held up an automobile after the crime, relieved the motorist of all cash and were preparing to dispossess him of his automobile when the headlights of another car came into view, the Negroes abandoning the attempt.

TWO BLACK ASSAILANTS OF WHITE WOMAN CAPTURED

Prisoners Held Safely in Fulton County, Georgia Jail

ATLANTA, GA., Aug. 17.—Two negroes who attacked a white woman about 11 o'clock Saturday night near Constitution, Ga., were captured shortly before daybreak this morning near the scene of the crime and lodged in the Fulton county jail.

The negroes, who gave the names of Howard Hinton and Sam Tremble, admitted their guilt, according to Sheriff McCurdy, of DeKalb county. Officers of three counties—DeKalb, Fulton and Clayton—joined in the hunt for the two men.

The negroes held up an automobile after the crime, relieved the motorist of all cash and were preparing to dispossess him of his automobile when the headlights of another car came into view, the negroes abandoning the attempt.

GIRL'S ASSAILANTS TRAILED BY POSSE

Police and deputies of three counties, aided by a posse of about 500 citizens, at 3 o'clock this morning were scouring the vicinity of Constitution, Ga., for two negroes, who late Saturday night attacked a young white girl.

Bloodhounds were brought from Fulton, DeKalb and Clayton counties, and county police, with the forces of Sheriff E. J. Reagin, of Jonesboro, and Sheriff J. A. McCurdy, of Decatur, soon surrounded the patch of woods where the negroes are thought to be hiding.

Following their attack on the girl, the negroes robbed a young white man of a considerable amount of money and were about to take his automobile when frightened off by Officer West, of Fulton county, who was returning to Atlanta from his vacation. He pursued the negroes for a short distance, but not knowing of their attack on the girl, continued to Atlanta when he lost their trail.

Officers of three counties were notified and a search for the two negroes started.

2 NEGROES JAILED FOLLOWING ATTACK

The vigil of officers from three counties—Fulton, DeKalb and Clay- safely behind the bars of Fulton county jail two negro men who attacked a white woman at Constitution, Ga., just before 11 o'clock Saturday night. They were arrested shortly before daybreak Sunday after an all-night hunt.

The negroes, who gave their names as Howard Hinton and Sam Tremble, readily admitted their guilt to the arresting officers, Sheriff J. A. McCurdy, of DeKalb county, stated Sunday afternoon. They were arrested within two miles of the scene of the crime, Tremble being captured in DeKalb county while Hinton was found in Fulton county.

After assaulting the woman, the negroes held up a motorist on the highway, and, after relieving him of his cash, were about to dispossess him of his automobile when headlights on the automobile of County Officer Ed West suddenly flashed upon them. The negroes abandoned the automobile and fled.

Officer West was returning from Gwinnett county, where he had been spending his vacation, and was not on duty at the time. He was told how the motorist was robbed by the negroes, but did not learn of the attack upon the woman until he had gone about half a mile further down the road toward Atlanta.

Officer West immediately notified headquarters of the Fulton county police, and word was telephoned to Sheriff McCurdy, at Decatur, and Sheriff E. J. Reagin, at Jonesboro. Both officials quickly organized posses of citizens who were sworn in, and accompanied the officers on their march toward the section where the attack occurred.

DeKalb county officers assisting Sheriff McCurdy were Chief A. S. Roberson, of the county force, and Officers W. A. Rogers, L. F. Henderson and S. D. Gentry. Under command of Lieutenant R. F. Jordan, of the Fulton county force, Officers W. A. Wells and Ed West, with a number of others, closed in from this side. The names of members of Sheriff Reagin's posse had not been learned.

Lynchings — 1924

Louisiana.

Rape; Allered Attacks by Negroes.

1687

GIRL STUDENT WOUNDED WHILE RIDING WITH MAN

Alleged Attack Made by Negro Who Fired Three Times

BATON ROUGE, LA., March 17.—Miss Cora Hughes, [illegible] parish, a freshman at Louisiana State University, was in a hospital today suffering from three pistol wounds while the authorities were investigating the story of Lewis Roberts that an unidentified negro had attacked them last night as they rode in an automobile in the outskirts of the city. The young woman was not seirously injured. One bullet lodged in the neck, another went through her foot while the third penetrated her arm. Roberts after taking the girl to a hospital, reported the affair at police headquarters. He said the negro jumped on the running board of the car and after shooting Miss Hughes, escaped into the darkness.

Hattiesburg Miss American MAR 17 1924

Young Lady Student Is Badly Shot While Out Riding With Young Man

(By Associated Press)

BATON ROUGE, La., March 17.—Suffering from three gunshot wounds, Miss Cora Hughes, of Tangipahoa parish, a freshman in the Louisiana State University, is in a local sanitarium today where it is said she will recover unless complications develop.

Miss Hughes was riding with Lewis Roberts in an automobile when the shooting took place. According to the story they told officers she and Roberts were driving slowly along Jackson road inside the city limits when an unidentified negro jumped on the running board and after shooting her three times made his escape.

Miss Hughes was taken to the sanitarium immediately after the shooting by Roberts, who then came by the place where the girl was staying, the home of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Taylor, 835 East Street, and then reported the affair to the officers.

Officers doubt the truthfulness of the story as told by the couple.

At the sanitarium, it was found that one of the bullets entered the flesh of the girl's neck, penetrating to the skin on the back of the neck, where the bullet lodged. No veins or vital organs were struck by the bullet.

Another bullets went through the flesh of the arm, not striking the bone of the arm or the body. The other bullet went through the girl's foot. One of the bullets was found on the floor of the car. Whether it was the bullet that went through the girl's arm or the one that went through her foot is not known.

A bullet hole was found in the back of the car just to the left and slightly above the right fender. This bullet had gone through the metal, but it did not go through the back seat.

The bullet found was from a .32-calibre automatic. It had a steel jacket.

NEW ORLEANS LA. ITEM
DECEMBER 14, 1924

8th Woman Attacked By Negro Here

Assailant scapes As Motorists Rush To Aid Victim

Another attack upon a white woman was made Saturday night in Carrollton by a negro. This was the eighth in three weeks.

The woman, Mrs. Walter S. Offner, [illegible] of 2022 Dante st[illegible]t, who is in a delicate condition, broke the negro's grip upon her neck, ran screaming down the street, and fainted.

Just as she fell, an automobile with four white men in it turned into Panola street. Its lights revealed the woman falling and the negro running behind her.

Negro Flees.

All four men shouted and leaped out. The negro dashed out of the light into a vacant lot and disappeared. The men went after him, but lost the trail.

Mrs. Offner was treated by her physician. She [illegible] believed to have been injured.

Mrs. Offner was in the darkened block on her way home, a block of Panola street, near Carrollton avenue, when she was attacked. Her arms were full of bundles she had gotten in the grocery at Sycamore street and Carrollton avenue.

A church with large grounds is on one side this block of Panola street. On the other side of the block is a vacant lot, which was a pool of blackness. Without street lamps in the middle of this block and with the light from the lamps on the corners cut off by trees, there [illegible] spot midway from the corners where Mrs. Offner could not see at all.

"A Big Man."

In this spot the negro leaped upon her.

"He was a big man," she told the police. "He put his arms around my neck from behind."

The woman defended herself frantically. She screamed. The negro lost his hold. And Mrs. Offner staggered down the street.

As she fell, the automobile turned into the block and the negro fled.

The only description Mrs. Offner could give was that the negro was tall and powerful.

Worst of Series.

The attack upon Mrs. Offner was the worst of eight which have taken place in Carrollton within three weeks. Among the victims were a 15-year-old girl and a police matron.

One negro was arrested in connection with the previous attacks. He is Robert Edmonds. The charge is assault with intent to rob. Two women, Mrs. Barry and Miss Bessie Mavnds, police matron, identified him as the man who attacked them.

Lynchings - 1924.
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Maryland.

1688

POSSE CAPTURES YOUNG NEGRO MAN

Members of Ball Team and Maryland National Guard Catch Laborer.

Easton, Md., Aug. 27.—A posse of approximately 50 men late tonight captured Carroll Gibson, 19 year old Negro, who is reported to have attacked Mrs. Norman Baker at her home, three miles south of Trappe, early this evening. Mrs. Baker is a sister-in-law of Frank ("Home Run King") Baker, manager of the Easton baseball team.

The posse included members of the Easton baseball team and a part of headquarters company, First regiment, Maryland National Guard.

According to the report to the sheriff, Gibson went to Trappe early this evening with Baker, on whose farm he is a laborer. Leaving Baker in Trappe, Gibson is said to have gone back to the farm on a bicycle and attacked Mrs. Baker.

Lynchings - 1924.

Missouri.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

1689

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
OCTOBER 11, 1924

Fears Lynching on Extradition; Flees Hospital

By International News Service.

SANDUSKY, Ohio, Oct. 10.

JULIUS COLEY, a negro, escaped early to-day from a hospital here, where he was recovering from an operation for appendicitis. He had been arrested a month ago on a charge of attacking a young girl in Missouri.

Coley, who was being held for extradition, had been shackled to his bed. The shackles vanished with him. It is believed he had outside assistance.

Coley feared he would be lynched if returned to Missouri.

Lynchings—1924.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

New Jersey.

1690

TRENTON N. TIMES
DECEMBER 23, 1924

CHARGED WITH ASSAILING GIRL, SEEKS TO DIE

Negro Shoots Self When Arrested on Charge of White Child

Released under $1,000 bail last night on a charge of attempted rape, Paul Higginbotham, negro, 21 years old, of Ewing Park, today attempted to kill himself by placing the muzzle of a shotgun at his left side and sending a charge of rabbit shot toward his heart. The barrel of the gun was exceptionally long, however, and when the young negro pulled the trigger the weapon was forced outward and the shot tore the left muscle from his chest.

Higginbotham was arrested by State Police Troopers Salz and Crawford late yesterday afternoon, on a charge preferred by Catherine Litko, 15 years old, of Green Lane, Ewing Park. The girl charges that on the night of December 19, last, as she was returning home from work at the Belmont Restaurant, South Clinton Avenue, here, Higginbotham accosted her as she alighted from a trolley car at Ewing Park, and later attacked her.

According to the girl, the young negro followed her until a secluded spot was reached along the road to her home, and then attempted to assault her. The Litko girl managed to free herself from Higginbotham but in the tussel her hat and pumps were torn off, and her pocketbook was seized by the negro, the girl asserts. The next morning the girl's mother went to the spot where the alleged attack occurred and recovered the pocketbook, shoes and hat.

The State Police were notified and started a search for the girl's assailant, which terminated late yesterday afternoon when the troopers located Higginbotham at the C. V. Hill refrigerator plant, where he is said to be employed.

Higginbotham was arraigned before Justice of the Peace Mathews, who committed him without bail to the County Jail. Later, Higginbotham's father appeared before Mathews and pleaded for his son's release, which was granted when bail of $1,000 was posted.

Shortly after 7 o'clock this morning young Higginbotham called his brother, a boy, and handed him a key and a pocketbook, telling the lad that he was going to kill himself. The boy ran to tell his father. Young Higginbotham rushed upstairs and secured a shotgun. Placing the muzzle against his chest he leaned down and pulled the trigger.

When the elder Higginbotham reached the room his son was lying on the floor in a pool of blood. Dr. Henry J. Austin was called and now has young Higginbotham in his care. Although the wound Higginbotham inflicted on himself is serious, the shots failed to penetrate his chest. Troopers Salz and Crawford are investigating, and upon his recovery Higginbotham may be re-arrested on a charge of attempted suicide.

Lynchings—1924.
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

New York.

1691

FIVE YONKERS MEN HELD FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

Escort Knocked Unconscious — Two Charged with Criminal Assault as Result of Affidavits.

Five colored Yonkers youths, one of them said to be the son of a minister, were locked up in Yonkers Police Headquarters early to-day charged with attacking Miss Gretta Neidhardt, 20 years old, who lives 4 Van Cortlandt Park avenue, Yonkers. The alleged assault on Eighth avenue, Manhattan, and Alexander Pollock, 30, of took place shortly after 1 o'clock Saturday morning while Pollock and Miss Neidhardt were walking near the approach to the new ferry in Yonkers. A more serious charge will be made against two of the prisoners when they are arraigned in the Yonkers Court of Special Sessions later in the day.

According to Pollock, he was knocked down and rendered unconscious by the men, who leaped from a darkened doorway as he and Miss Neidhardt passed. When Pollock fell the assailants dragged his companion to a nearby gravel pit, threw her down and stifled her cries. Pollock shortly afterward partly regained his senses and ran to the Yonkers Police Headquarters, three blocks away. Policemen William Kruppenbacker and Michael Otis and Detective Patrick Flood rushed to the scene in a motorcar and arrested Carlton Berkeley, 18 years old, of 3 Carlisle place and Edward Crawford, 16, of 2 Hood place, both of Yonkers, after a short chase in which several shots were fired.

The others had disappeared, but from Berkeley and Crawford the police obtained information which led to the arrest a short time later of Graydon Jones, 16, said to be the son of a minister of 96 Woodworth avenue; Reginald Ryer, 18, of 15 Willow place, and John Adams, 20, of 24 Wood place, also of Yonkers. According to the police, Berkeley and Crawford both made affidavits that Jones and Adams had assaulted the girl.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
AUGUST 19, 1924

Beating by Mob Saves Negro From Jail

George Shaw, a negro, showed marks of such a terrific beating when he appeared in Tombs Court to-day to answer to the charge of having attempted familiarities with a white girl that Magistrate Stanley announced he had been punished enough and suspended sentence.

Shaw's accuser was Dorothy Shinnick, 16 years old, of 22 Desbrosses street. She agreed with the Magistrate that he should be let go.

The negro was beaten into unconsciousness by a mob which overtook him on the Desbrosses street station of the Ninth avenue elevated line. This was after Miss Shinnick had declared that while she and two girl friends were sitting on the front steps of her home Shaw had come along and grabbed her by the ankle.

The girl had screamed, and the crowd of men and boys who at once pursued Shaw caught him soon after he had gained the elevated station platform. He was knocked down, several of his teeth were kicked out his eyes were blackened and his ears badly torn.

JANITOR HELD ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Edgar Carey, age 23, janitor at 12[illegible] Park avenue, was arrested Saturday night by detectives upon a charge of attempted criminal assault, made by eight-year-old Rae Goldberg, who lived in the apartment house.

The little girl is said to have run to her mother and told her that Carey had asked her to come to his room in the basement.

HELD FOR RAPE OF 15-YEAR-OLD GIRL

Man Had Been Lodger in Home Since May 1— Previously Held in High Esteem by Father.

Jackson Gilliard, of 241 West 142nd street, is held in $2,000 bail for the Grand Jury, charged with committing rape upon pretty Una Henderson, 15-year-old schoolgirl of the same address.

Durell Henderson, the girl's father, made the complaint, in which he states that the girl is pregnant. He testified that the defendant had been a lodger in his home since May 1, and had been well thought of by him. The exact date of the alleged act was not disclosed in the preliminary hearing in the Magistrate's Court on Monday.

Gilliard, who is 30 years old, pleaded not guilty. He was arrested by Detective Winterhalter of the 16th Precinct.

WHITE MAN AND WOMAN FAIL TO APPEAR AGAINST FIVE MEN THEY ACCUSED OF ASSAULT ON PIER

Yonkers police, after firing a fusillade of bullets, arrested five young colored men on Saunders Pier on the Hudson river after, it is alleged, at least two of them had attacked Miss Gretta Neidhardt, white girl, 20, and had knocked unconscious her escort, Alexander Pollock, 30, of No. 4 Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, Yonkers.

Judge Gorfinkel held each in $5,000 bail, but when the case was called in court the complainants in the affair failed to appear, and counsel for the defendants requested their release on the ground that there was not substantial evidence to hold his clients prisoners, but the magistrate refused and directed policemen to search in New York for the white woman who fled from the scene when Officers Michael Otis and Krupenbacker say they found on the pier Charlton Berkley, 18, of No. 3 Carlyle place, Yonkers, and Edward Crawford, 16, of No. 24 Hood place, Yonkers, holding the girl. They arrested them and opened fire on three who were fleeing. Later they captured Graydon Jones, 16, of No. 96 Woodworth avenue, Yonkers; Reginald Ryer, 18, of No. 15 Willow place, Yonkers and John Adams, 20, of No. 24 Wood place, Yonkers.

The police say the companions of Jones and Adams allege in affidavits that these two had attacked the white girl before the officers arrived. As the police chased the youths the girl fled and made her way to this city, where she is said to have a home on Eighth avenue.

YOUNG GIRL IS ASSAULTED BY STOOL PIGEON

Little East Side West Indian Attacked In Down Stairs Hallway of Building In Which She Lived.

ASSAILLANT FOLLOWS INTO HALLWAY WHERE GIRL MAKES FIGHT

In Frenzy of Fear Girl Continued Resistance Even Against Rescuers, Until Police Subdued Her.

The tragic experience of a little West Indian girl, who fell into the clutches of one of the police stool pigeons on the 18th of July, has just come to light.

The outrage was perpetrated upon her in the downstairs hallway of her home at 1833 Third avenue.

The assailant of the young West Indian girl, who is small, quiet, having a sweet disposition and yet in her 'teens, was waiting outside the door and followed her inside the hall.

Fought Rescuers.

She remembers him calling to her as she hurried down the hall then all is blank to her until she came to her senses again and found herself fighting like a cave girl with a young colored man.

Her hat was on the floor, her purse was missing and she was hysterical in her screams, which drew a large crowd from the building and out of the streets.

The young lady who was wild from excitement and fear was fighting everyone who came upon her and did not recognize two officers who came in plain clothes.

The large crowd of colored and white bystanders saw one of the officers land an awful wallop on the cheek of the frantic West Indian girl, who had not seen his shield.

In the meantime, the culprit escaped, the policemen dispersed the crowd, and the girl was taken to her room by relatives.

The curtain fell, or, in other words, the front door closed, on the tragic scene.

An innocent, decent girl was outraged by a "stool pigeon," then assaulted by a cop, and the guilty parties went free and unmolested, while the young child paid with heartaches and tears.

Lynchings—1924.
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

North Carolina.

1692

Race Youth Held In Alleged Attack Is Given His Release

White Girl Identifies Lad, But Failure to Grow Mustache Causes Her Case to Fall Through.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Jan. 31. — Because over a period of many days there appeared to be no growth of hair on his upper lip, James Barnes was released from the local jail, where he had been held for several days, in fact weeks, charged with an attack upon an 18-year-old white woman.

The girl had identified Barnes as her assailant, but positively asserted, according to police authorities, that the man had a small moustache at the time. Barnes was locked up under observation, but the failing of hirsute adornments to grown on his upper lip in a period of five weeks resulted in his release.

JUN 17 1924

ASSAILANT OF GIRL IN DANGER BY MOB

RAEFORD, N. C., June 16.—Following a manhunt of several hours, in which about a thousand citizens of Hoke county are said to have participated, Robert C. Wright, young South Carolina negro, was captured late today and said to have been identified by a young white woman as the negro who earlier, in the day, attacked her. The negro was placed in jail here, and is under heavy guard. The young woman is reported to have escaped uninjured, except for bruises about the face and arms. The captured negro bears scars on his face as a result of the struggle with his victim.

Charlotte, N. C.
Observer
JUL 5 1924

THE KIWANIS AND THE BLACK MAN.

The Vass Pilot relates that in Hoke County a couple of weeks ago a black man assaulted a white girl. Two other black men caught the offender, although a large number of white men were out in search of him, and the colored captors turned their prisoner over to the custody of the sheriff at Raeford. The prompt and decisive action of these two colored men led the Kiwanis Club of Raeford to address to each of the captors a resolution of appreciation by the members of the club, and the resolutions included some kindly words that would be wholesome reading for men of both races.

The incident is productive of the sensible editorial remark by The Pilot that "the black man who stands out for the defense of the white man's family can demand from the white man the same defense and help for his own, and it will be a mighty poor white man who is not willing to grant it. Those Hoke County negroes did a mighty good thing for themselves, for their race, their white neighbors and society, and law. The Raeford Kiwanis Club did another good job in recognizing what the negroes did."

NEGRO ASSAULTER IS GUARDED BY DEPUTIES

Raeford, N. C., June [illegible]—Following a man-hunt of several hours, in which about a thousand citizens of Hoke county are said to have participated, Robert C. Wright ,young South Carolina negro was captured yesterday and said to have been identified by a young white woman as the negro who earlier in the day attacked her in an attempt at criminal assault.

Wright was placed in jail and is guarded by deputies, according to advices received.

Lynchings - 1924.

Rape: Attacks by Negroes.

Pennsylvania.

1693

ADMITS LYING ABOUT ATTACK "BY A NEGRO"

Girl Says She Fabricated Falsehood To Cover Up Her Own Theft

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 12—After an hour and a half's grilling by police, 15 year old Regina McNeal, who told police she was "attacked by a Negro" in the tinsmith shop of W. H. Snook, 332 Kelker Street, admitted the attack occurred merely in her imagination, said Chief Joseph P. Thompson.

The girl not only admitted the story of attack to be false, said the chief, but also admitted stealing the gold locket that disappeared from a tray in the office safe.

It was the desire to possess this locket that caused the girl to stage the fake robbery and attack, according to the story she told between sobs to Chief Thompson. But fear of being caught with the locket in her possession, made her throw it down a sewer. The locket, the property of Snook's daughter, has not been recovered.

The McNeal girl who lives at 330 Kelker Street has been in charge of the office at the Snook shop for the last two days while Mr. Snook was busy elsewhere. When her brother, employed as a tinner by Snook, and another workman returned to the shop shortly after noon yesterday the girl told of a negro entering the place, and after learning that she was alone, attacking her and then taking the locket.

The girl will not be arrested, said the chief, and no charge has been placed against her.

WHITE GIRL'S COMPANY LEADS TO RAPE CHARGE

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 29.—Two Negro youths, Oscar Weaver, 22 and William Wilson, 20, and two white girls, Martha and Ruth Thompson, were arrested here, when the police were informed that they had been seen to enter Wilson's home. Although the girls declared that they had accompanied the youths of their own free will, they were all locked up, and a charge of rape was placed against the Negroes.

Magistrate O'Brien fixed bail for nine men at $2,000 each and held the girls in $1,000 bail for further hearing.

St. Louis, Mo. 10-31-24

In spite of the girls' testimony, feeling among the white court hangers on ran high against the young men.

Seen at their home the owners of the house in which the arrests were made declared that Wilson was a model roomer and had lived with them for a year. On the day of the arrest the owners were not at home and were ignorant of what had occurred until late Sunday night.

Lynchings - 1924.
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

South Carolina.

1694

PENDLETON WOMAN IDENTIFIES NEGRO

Ex-Convict Taken to Home Where Attack Was Made.

Anderson, Aug. 18.—Positive identification of Grover Reeder, Negro and ex-convict, as the man who is alleged to have attacked a young white woman of near Pendleton at midnight August 13 was made today by the young woman and two others, according to a statement by Sheriff W. O. Marett of this county.

8-19-24

The negro was taken to the home of the the young woman this morning where the identification was effected, according to the sheriff. Sheriff Marrett stated that the peculiar formation of one of the negro's feet, also led to the identification the shape and size of the ex-convict's foot conforming to tracks near the home of the young woman.

Reeder was released from one of the county chaingangs one month ago after he had completed the service of six years for housebreaking in this county. He is 26 years of age.

HELD AT ANDERSON

Negro Arrested in Connection With Pendleton Attack.

Special to The State.

Anderson, Aug. 16. Grover Reeder, Negro, is being held in the Anderson county jail on charge of attempted assault growing out of the attack on a young woman at Pendleton Wednesday night.

The Negro, who was brought to Anderson about 3 o'clock this morning, was arrested near Piercetown. He had been seen near the young woman's home Wednesday, according to Anderson officers, and had, they say, apparently fled into the swamps, his clothing being covered with mud when he was found.

Officers have also "a good deal of other evidence" against the man, they say, but this evidence was not made public.

The Negro is 21 years old and had only recently completed the service of a sentence on the county chaingang.

Owens, another Negro, who was arrested Thursday in connection with the case, has been released.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Herald

YOUNG WOMAN IS BRUTALLY ASSAULTED NEAR CHESTER

Beaten to Insensibility and Body Rammed in Culvert by Negro, Victim, Left for Dead, Come to Herself and Spreads Alarm—Big Posses Out.

NEGRO CAUGHT
(Special to The Herald)

Chester, Sept. 22.—The negro that attacked the young white lady about 14 miles from here this afternoon is said to have been put in jail here tonight. His incerceration is being kept very quiet, it is said, as feeling among the people is running very high.

(Special to The Herald)

Chester, Sept. 22.—One of the most dastardly deeds in the memory of the oldest residents of Chester county was committed this afternoon fourteen miles from here on the Chester-Great Falls highway when a popular and highly esteemed young woman was brutally beaten by a negro who, probably thinking he had murdered her, carried or dragged her body and rammed it in a culvert and made his get-away.

In a little while the young woman revived consciousness and managed to get out of the culvert and notified her people. As if by magic the news spread everywhere and hundreds of automobiles made for the scene. Tonight Sheriff Howsee, his deputies and a big posse are in search of the negro. He is said to be a strange negro and unknown to this section. A dragnet has been stretched over this entire section of the commonwealth in an effort to apprehend him.

It is thought that he had planned to criminally assault his victim, but failed to do so, probably thinking he had killed her. She is 20 years old and gave the brute a stiff battle. An examination of her body shows where the negro's finger nails badly scarred her throat. He used rocks to beat her into unconsciousness. She had gone to get the mail and was sitting by the roadside awaiting the mailman when the negro came up and attacked her.

Tennessee.

Lynchings - 1924.

1695

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

NEGRO ACCUSED BY A WOMAN IS GUARDED IN JAIL

Bristol, Tenn., May 18.—Will Williams, Negro, claiming Z[illegible]ingham as his home, was jailed at Blountville on a charge of attempted criminal assault on a young married woman in her home here.

She was injured about the head in her struggle with the Negro, who pursued her to an upstairs room, where he was frightened away by her screams.

5-19-24

Williams was arrested near the house and was promptly bound over to court and remanded to the county jail. Special guards were placed on duty.

Lynchings—1924.
Rape:-Alleged Attacks by Negroes.
Tennessee.

1696

WOMAN IDENTIFIES NEGRO.

Black Held Without Bail for Attempted Criminal Assault.

Identified, police say, as the negro who attempted to assault Mrs. J. T. Gast, 321 Linden Avenue, Charles Reeves, negro coal peddler, living at 1382 Cleveland Street, is held without bail in the city jail on a charge of attempted criminal assault.

Reeves was arrested at Front Street and Porter Avenue yesterday morning. Mrs. Gast reported Wednesday night that a negro made insulting advances and seized her by the wrist when he found her and her 12-year-old son alone at their home Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Gast screamed and her son threw a book at the negro. The black ran.

Mrs. Gast is said to have positively identified Reeves as the man who entered her home.

Meharry Student Said to be Victim Of 'Hello Girl' Plot

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 24—Oswald Durant, an honor student at Meharry Medical College, who is charged with rape of a white telephone girl and has been indicted, is being aided in his fight for freedom by the N. A. A. C. P. here. Durant, who is an honor student of his class and a world war veteran, protests his innocence of the crime. W. C. Orton, President of the Nashville, N. A. A. C. P. writes that the only description given by the telephone girl of her assailant was of "the color of his overcoat and cap" and that when confronted with Durant she was unable to identify the coat or cap but said his voice "sounded like her assailants'". On this evidence the Grand Jury indicted Durant and trial was set for April . The N. A. A. C. P. engaged Jeff. McCarn, one of the best criminal lawyers in the State and paid him a retainer fee of $250. He had the trial put off to enable him to prepare the case.

Durant is now in State Prison for safe keeping. According to Mr. Orton, "some good white people say it is a put up job" to protect a white man involved with the telephone girl.

Police Guard Meharry College Student

Senior Medical Student Of Nashville Institution On Trial.—White Woman Charges Assault.—Accused Has Excellent Record

NASHVILLE, TENN., April 23. The case of Oswald Durant, member of the senior medical class of Meharry Medical College, charged with criminal assault, preferred by Miss Margaret Kinard, young white woman, was called before Judge Hart on last Monday morning. The entire time up to Tuesday evening has been taken in examining the large number of veniremen who were summoned for jury service, and of the number only ten have been accepted.

The assault is said to have been committed on the night of Tuesday, March 11, the young woman claiming that she left a street car for the purpose of going to her home in South Nashville and as she passed an alley, a Negro attacked her, dragged her into the alley and criminally assaulted her. Durant was arrested shortly after the alleged assault in his room at the college and when taken before the woman she positively identified him as her assailant. He denied all knowledge of the crime or that he had ever seen the girl.

Following the arrest of the young man he was taken to the state penitentiary, local officers using that precaution against any attempt at lynching. A number of officers are on guard while the man is in the court room and a ladder has been placed near one end of the court room in order that escape with the prisoner may be made easy, should a mob form suddenly.

Durant has an excellent record at the college and his deportment and scholarship is said to be above reproach. He would have finished with the class this year from the institution.

MAN KILLS YOUNG NEGRO IN TENNESSEE COURT ROOM

Was Brother Of Girl Negro Was Charged With Having Attacked.

COLUMBIA, TENN., June 27.—Robt. Wilson, 16, negro, was shot and almost instantly killed in the court room here today by Dorris T. Twomey immediately after Judge Thomas B. Lyttle had set aside the verdict of the jury which gave the negro not more than two years in the penitentiary on a charge of attempted criminal assault upon the 12-year-old sister of Twomey.

When court adjourned after Judge Lytle's ruling M. F. Twomey, father of the girl, started toward the negro and when officers grappled with him, his son Dorris appeared and opened fire on the negro. Three bullets took effect.

Young Twomey was immediately arrested and placed in jail to await a preliminary hearing.

MOBILE, ALA., Register
MAY 19 1924

BIRMINGHAM NEGRO IS HELD FOR ATTACK

BRISTOL, Tenn., May 18 — Will Williams, negro, claiming Birmingham, Ala., as his home, was arrested and jailed at Blountsville, Tenn., on a charge of attempted criminal assault upon a young married woman of this city.

The woman was slightly injured about the head as a result of her struggle with the negro who chased her to an upstairs room where he was frightened away by her screams. Williams was arrested a short distance from the house where he had attempted the assault and was promptly bound over to court and remanded to the county jail at Blountsville.

Special guards were placed at the jail tonight although there were no indications of violence.

Lynchings-1924.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Virginia.

1697

FIFTH WOMAN IS ATTACKED BY NEGRO

Richmond Police and County Officers Scour Countryside for Assailant

RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 16.—Aided by posses of citizens, Chesterfield county officers and Richmond police still were searching late tonight for the negro who attacked a white woman soon after noon today near stop 14 on the Petersburg-Richmond turnpike.

The woman, the fifth victim of such an attack here within the past week, is about 45 years old and married, local police say.

According to their account of the affair the woman was walking along a road which runs parallel to the Petersburg pike when the negro approached her and asked for money. He is then said to have struck her in the face with a stick and dragged her into the woods by the roadside where he attacked her.

Attracted by her cries for help a neighbor went to the woman's assistance. When found she was badly beaten about the head and her clothing almost entirely had been torn from her body.

Officers were called to the scene and took up the hunt for her assailant at once but as yet no arrests have been made.

Almost at the same hour another attack on a white woman by a negro man was taking place, according to reports to local authorities by Mrs. W. E. Clark, wife of the keeper of a Hebrew cemetery near Staggs Mill, who said that the negro came to her home during the absence of her husband and demanded entrance. Refused, she said, he displayed a pistol and sought to force his way in but was frightened away by her cries for help. Officers also are searching for a man to answer the description which she furnished.

The ten negroes who had been arrested in connection with the attack upon two West Hampton college girls last Friday, were all set at liberty today when the young women were unable to identify any of them as their assailant.

CHARGED WITH ASSAULT

Negro Held For Attack On Two College Girls.

RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 11.—A negro man has been arrested in connection with the attack made upon two West Hampton college girls yesterday afternoon. He was taken into custody by Chief Lawrence, of Henrico county and has been lodged in jail where he will be held until he is taken before the young women to be identified.

INDIAN FREED ON RICHMOND ATTACK

Victim of Assault Fails to Identify Croatan; Vigilance of Police Unabated

RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 17.—Dewitt Pace, who claims to be a Croatan Indian, was returned to Richmond tonight following his arrest today at Empria, where he was taken into custody as a suspect in connection with an attack made upon a white woman shortly after noon yesterday on the Petersburg-Richmond turn pike. The victim of the attack, however, failed to identify him as her assailant when he was taken before her and the man was set at liberty.

The vigilance of local police and officers of two counties was unabated today and tonight their search still was being prosecuted in an attempt to apprehend those responsible for attacks attempted or committed upon seven white women during the past week.

POSSE ON TRAIL OF FLEEING NEGRO

Two College Girls Attacked on Wooded Road as They Were Taking Walk

Richmond, Va., October 10.—Posses are scouring the hills surrounding Richmond for an unknown negro, who assulted two West Hampton college girls on a wooded road near the college late this afternoon.

The girls, one a junior and the other a sophomore, are said to have been walking along the road when they were followed by a negro who forced them into a thin strip of woods near the college. There he is said to have cut one of the girls severely with a knife and then assaulted the other.

The clothes of both girls were torn almost to shreds in the struggle. Hearing their cries, a guard at the University of Richmond nearby, rushed to the rescue. The negro fled.

Both girls are now in a Richmond hospital where they are said to be in a state of nervous collapse.

Posses composed of police, county officers, university students, and per-

sons in the neighborhood are combing the countryside. Blood hounds have been placed on the scent.

NEGRO ATTACKS RICHMOND GIRL

Miss Pearl Holland Struck Down While En Route to Work; Assailant Escapes

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 1.—Local police were still searching tonight for a negro man who attacked Miss, Pearl Holland, a young white woman early this morning just off of Broad street.

Miss Holland was on her way to work when the negro stepped from the shadow of a doorway and struck her with a blunt instrument. Her cries for help frightened the negro who escaped, outdistancing pursuers.

At the hospital to which she was taken, it was learned tonight, that the young woman's condition was improved though she is still suffering from shock. Examination disclosed bruises about the head and her hands and arms which she raised in an effort to ward off the blow of her assailant.

On the basis of a description which the young woman was able to give of the negro, police today conducted a citywide search in an effort to effect his capture.

Lynchings - 1924.
Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

West Virginia

1698

WHEELING W VA NEWS
DECEMBER 18 1924

WEIRTON POSSE SCOURS HILLS FOR NEGRO WHO ASSAULTED GIRL

ATTACKED 17-YEAR OLD EVA AZANO NEAR HOME ON OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN

GIRL WAS SAVED BY THE TIMELY ARRIVAL OF AN AUTOMOBILE PARTY

CHIEF BROOKS AND POSSE OF ANGRY MEN FAIL TO FIND THE NEGRO

Eva Azano, seventeen year old daughter of Mike Azano of East Weirton, was attacked and rather seriously injured about ten o'clock this morning by a negro who fled to the woods on the timely arrival of an automobile party.

Chief Harry Brooks of Weirton heading a posse of angry citizens of the mill town have been scouring the woods near the scene of the attempted crime since eleven o'clock, but at a late hour they had not been able to locate the fiend.

The Azano girl was beaten over the head with a revolver in the hands of the negro and he pounded her repeatedly with his fists. She fought viciously and her screams attracted attention of a party of men in an automobile.

They hurried in the direction of the noise and arrived in time to see the negro. They saw his gun and being unarmed themselves were a little slow in approaching, giving the girl's assailant time to dash into the woods.

Took Girl to Police.

The girl was rushed to police headquarters in the machine, and when they arrived she was in a serious condition from shock and fright. It took half an hour to restore her from her hysterical condition and be able to tell her story.

Immediately on learning the details and getting a description of the girl's assailant Chief Brooks assembled a party of officers and deputies, rushing them to the point where the negro was seen to enter the woods. The posse was heavily armed and prepared to act if they met with resistance.

The Girl's Story.

According to the story told by Miss Azano she was attacked just as she left her home, which is located on the outskirts of a new addition to Weirton. She had only gone a few yards from the house along the lonely road when the negro sprang upon her so suddenly she had no chance to run or escape. She resisted his efforts to prevent her screaming notwithstanding she was threatened with death, and beaten with revolver and fists. She says the negro took to his heels as soon as he heard the approach of the automobile.

The timely arrival of the automobile party probably saved the girl from an awful fate for she was almost ready to collapse from fright and injuries when the men in the machine reached her.

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Alabama.

1746

CHARGED WITH RAPE

David Wells Removed From Butler to Montgomery Jail

GREENVILLE, ALA., March 6.—Special to The Advertiser.—David Wells, arrested some weeks ago in the southern part of Butler county on a charge of rape and released on bond, was rearrested today on a charge of grand larceny and his bondsmen in the first case turned him over to Sheriff Murphy because the Butler jail has been condemned for white prisoners.

The warrant for rape was sworn out by J. W. Townsend, father of Mrs. S. Thompson, whom Wells is alleged to have chased out of her house along with her husband prior to the offense.

JUDGE PUTS BAN ON KLAN JURORS IN PUCKETT CASE

Members Of Order Dismissed On Account Of Reward Offered

DEFENDANT PLEADS HE IS INNOCENT

Hundreds Of Persons Present As Trial Opens At Russellville

8/30/24

RUSSELLVILLE, Ala., August 29.—(Special.)—Barring of klansmen as jurors and a plea of not guilty by Porter Puckett featured the opening of Puckett's trial here today on a charge of criminal attack on a little 11-year-old Vina, Ala., girl, his niece. She died a few days later as a result, it was alleged.

Travis Williams, attorney for Puckett, asked that members of the klan be prevented from serving on the jury. He was supported by Judge Charles P. Almon, trial judge, who ruled that under a decision of the supreme court no member of an organization which has offered a reward for an arrest can serve as jurymen in the case.

As a result several of the jurymen were excused after they declined to answer questions as to whether they are members of the klan or not. The jury was finally secured about noon and the trial opened at two o'clock. Several veniremen were dismissed because they had fixed opinions in the case.

A crowd of about 1,500 persons gathered at the court house for the opening of the trial. However, there was little evidence of excitement.

Puckett appeared a little disturbed as he entered the courtroom between two deputies. He plead not guilty despite reports from Florence that he confessed while in jail there.

Lynchings - 1924
Rapes by Whites.

Arkansas.

1740

White Rapist Jailed But Not Lynched

Texarkana, Ark., Aug. 28.—(P. N. S.)—James Johnson is in the Texarkana, Tex., jail on charges of having assaulted six negro women in the Swampoodle district during the past week. The women say that Johnson threatened to kill them if they reported his attacks.

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Georgia

1741

DRAGGED FROM AUTO, WOMAN CHARGES

Hawkinsville Man Held at Macon After Identification by Alleged Near-Victim.

MACON, Ga., Jan. 16.—Clarence Skipper, charged with dragging a prominent married woman of Hawkinsville from her automobile Tuesday afternoon a short distance from Hawkinsville, and who is now held here, was this afternoon identified by the young woman as her assailant and by an old negro who protected her when she ran into his house to escape.

The young woman and the negro came to Macon shortly after noon Wednesday and were at once taken to the Bibb County jail, where Skipper was pointed out as the assailant.

The young white man, whose home is in Hawkinsville, made a statement after being identified, telling of the incident.

Skipper is alleged to have followed the young woman out of Hawkinsville in an automobile late Tuesday afternoon, and when the two cars were some distance from the city he drove in ahead of the woman's automobile, it is charged, and the cars collided. The man then proceeded to drag his victim from the car, she says, but she managed to escape, and ran to a negro house near-by. An aged negro then protected her from Skipper.

Feeling is said to be running high in Hawkinsville and surrounding country, and Skipper will be held here pending investigation and trial.

A change of venue will be asked, it was stated by authorities of Pulaski County Wednesday afternoon.

SAVANNAH YOUTH HELD FOR ATTACK ON LITTLE GIRL

Savannah, Ga., February 10.—(Special.)—H. J. Mahoney, 24, of Savannah, is held at police barracks here without bond on charges of alleged criminal assault on a 7-year-old white girl here today.

The alleged assault was made in the historic Colonial cemetery, which is located in the lot adjoining the police station.

The girl was playing in the cemetery with her 9-year-old sister, who ran screaming to the police station following the attempted assault. The arrest followed. Physicians say the girl is not seriously injured.

ALLEGED ASSAULTERS OF WOMAN, 82, HELD

Macon, Ga., May 19.—(Special.)—Charged with having perpetrated one of the most brutal crimes middle Georgia has known in many years, involving a criminal assault on a 82-year-old white woman residing near Gray, Ga., in Jones county, Jarrett Benford and Wade Johnson, young white men of Milledgeville, were lodged in the Bibb county jail today.

Both men deny their guilt, but the woman is said to have identified them both as her assailants. They were arrested at the scene of the alleged crime by a negro boy and a neighbor and were held until officers from Gray arrived.

Benford and Johnson are alleged to have been on their way to Milledgeville from Macon when they stopped at the woman's house, two miles from Gray. She was alone, except for a negro boy servant, who was sleeping in an adjoining room. Aroused by the screams of the woman, the boy fled to his father's house nearby, and the father ran to the home of U. S. Lancaster, a neighbor, he said.

Lancaster rushed to the woman's aid and held the two boys in their automobile until county officers arrived. They were taken to the Jones county jail and afterwards brought to Macon before news spread.

When Johnson reached the Bibb county jail he is said by officers to have been under the influence of whisky. Both are said to have acknowledged having had some whisky. They claim they stopped at the house to get some water and matches.

Quick action in rushing the men to Macon is believed to have prevented mob violence in Jones county. At noon today, it is understood, practically the entire male population of the county had congregated at Gray.

The victim is reported to be in a serious condition and under the care of a physician and nurse at her home. She is one of three sisters who had lived together unmarried until the influenza epidemic during the war when one of them died. The second sister died only a few months ago.

A committee of citizens today called on Judge James B. Parks, of the Ocmulgee circuit, and asked that a special term of court be called for next Monday to try the alleged assailants.

Benford and Johnson are each about 23 years old and both come of good families.

Lynchings-1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Illinois.

1742

FEAR LYNCHING AT ROCK ISLAND IN ASSAULT CASE

Chicago Tribune 3-20-24

Rock Island, Ill., March 19.—[Special.]—A lynching is threatened as the result of the arrest last night of three men claimed to have confessed to criminally assaulting Beatrice Timmons, Rock Island, and Elsa Herd, Davenport, both high school girls, who were seized on the street and taken in an automobile to the country, where they were attacked and brutally treated.

Five thousand dollars reward is claimed in case of conviction by a Davenport police officer and a deputy sheriff. The reward was raised by citizens and civic organizations. The cases are the most brutal in the history of the Tri-City police departments and occurred a night apart.

Those under arrest and claimed to have confessed are Henry and Raymond Devetter, 18 and 19, and Lester J. McCrossen, 20. A fourth man known as "Al" is sought here. His arrest is expected hourly.

BRIDE VICTIM OF THUGS DEAD

Girl Succumbs to Assault of Gangsters.

Chicago Daily Journal 11-25-24

The dainty honeymoon apartment that Frank L. Palermo, 25 years old, of 6752 Justine street, has been preparing for a fortnight will never be occupied. The bride, Mrs. Frances C. Weir Palermo, died yesterday in St. Anthony's hospital as a result of injuries received at the hands of Chicago gangsters, who kidnaped her from her sweetheart and assaulted her on Nov. 2.

When the knowledge of the young woman's death reached the ears of Chief of Detectives Schoemaker, two squads of detectives were assigned to the case with orders to apprehend Mrs. Palermo's assailants, dead or alive. The case was described as one of the most atrocious crimes in many months.

Bandit Trio Kidnaps Girl.

On the night of Nov. 2 Palermo and his fiancée, Miss Frances C. Weir, 24 years old, of 6801 Elizabeth street, were motoring in the former's automobile through south side streets. At the corner of 79th street and Marshfield avenue three bandits in a large touring car stopped the sweethearts. Palermo and Miss Weir were dragged into the bandits' automobile and a wild ride began.

At 92d street and Marshfield avenue Palermo was knocked unconscious and thrown from the car. The bandits took the young woman out into the prairie and attacked her. Two hours later she was found and was taken to St. Bernard's hospital.

Married in Hospital.

The next day, although his fiancée was hysterical and critically ill, Palermo obtained a marriage license and they were married in the hospital.

For a week Mrs. Palermo hovered between life and death. Then her condition improved. Her husband rented an apartment at 4533 Lake Park avenue, and set about furnishing it. Then Mrs. Palermo was transferred from St. Bernard's hospital to St. Anthony's and her improvement continued.

Yesterday physicians called the young husband to the bedside. He held his wife's hand when she died. Death resulted from the attack that occurred the night before the couple was married, the physicians said.

Last night Palermo informed detectives that his search for the bandits would not cease until he had found them.

Lynchings-1924.
0
Rapes by Whites.

Iowa.

1743

KIDNAPER IS SUICIDE PURSUED BY POSSES

Little Girls Taken Are Hurt, But Not Seriously.

KEOKUK, Iowa, Aug. 15.—H. Brown ended his life by shooting himself this afternoon when surround by a posse searching for Evelyn and Maxine Lawson, aged eight and four, respectively, who had been kept in a cave near an abandoned coal mine south of here all night by Brown. The girls were injured by Brown, but according to physicians, not seriously.

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Kansas.

1744

Attack Case to Open

BAXTER SPRINGS, Kan., Sept 25—Ray Sullivan, white chauffeur charged with rape in connection with an alleged attack on a col[ored] gi[rl] will be tried at Columbus Kansas, on Oct. 5.

Now that the attacker of a white woman is in jail colored people of Baxter Springs, aKnsas are having an object lesson in "equality" under the law. Attorney General Griffith did everything in his power, but his powers over county attorneys are limited.

UNPUNISHED FOR ASSAULT ON COLORED GIRL, WHITE MAN WHEN ASSAULTS WHITE GIRL

New York, Juyl 11.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, today made public the details of the retribution visited upon the white people of Baxter Springs, Kansas, for their failure to prosecute a white taxicab driver charged with having assaulted a colored girl. The same taxicab driver is now charged with an assault upon a white girl and has been arrested and held under bond of $[illegible].

Repeated requests by the colored of Baxter Springs, and by the National Office of the N. A. A. C. P. that the Kansas Attorney General take some action after the assault upon the colored girl, which occurred in March, brought no action whatever. The local State Attorney failed to proceed. The State Attorney General promised action, but did not show any results. But immediately after the assault had been committed upon the white girl, the State authorities took action.

On June 10th, the N. A. A. C. P. wrote the following letter to C. B. Grifith, Attorney General of Kansas in reference to the case of the white taxicab driver who latter attacked a white girl:

"I know you will agree with me that the failure to arrest and bring to trial this man, has now assumed the proportions of a scandal. Will you be good enough to let me know why three months have elapsed and the authorities have not taken any action towards bringing the guilty man to justice?

"I am sure you will understand the feeling of these respectable colored citizens for they know quite well what would have been the result if —— had been a Negro and Miss —— a white woman."

Lynchings–1924
Rapes by Whites.

Kentucky.

1745

WHITE MAN ACCUSED

OF KIDNAPPING COLORED

GIRL CAUGHT IN JEFF.

Edward Hart, 27, of Cave City, Ky., was arrested at Jeffersonville Tuesday night on a charge of having kidnapped a 12-year-old Negro girl at Horse Cave last week and of having assaulted her. Hart denied the charge, and said he would return to Cave City without requisition papers.

Hart told police he got into a dice game on the night of the kidnapping, won $750, and got drunk. He said he went riding in his automobile and did not remember anything more until he woke up next morning in a tobacco field near Cave City. He said his machine was stolen that night, and found later near Cave City, stripped of its tires and all accessories.

He is being held for Kentucky authorities.

White Men Abduct Colored Girl

$200 Reward For Capture Made

Horse Cave, Ky., Oct. 9.—This section is aroused as never before in its history. White and Colored people alike are excited—and all over a Colored girl. The white people are humiliated because two men of their race, superior Nordics, kidnapped little Susie Whiteside, 12 year old Colored girl. They swooped down on her as she was playing in front of her home and snatched her into an automobile and fled. They were chased by scores of motorists but escaped.

The girl was assaulted and outraged. She was found after a search of 24 hours. So indignant have the white people become that they have offered a reward of $200 for one Edgar Hart, alleged to be the kidnapper. He is said to be an ex-convict.

The WHITESIDES stand well in this community and everybody is worked up over the outrage.

White Citizens Seek Child's Assailant

Edgar Hart Accused Of Attack On Negro Child At Horse Cave

Horse Cave, Ky., 10.—Local residents, through Chief of Police W. T. Nunn, today offered a reward of $200 for the apprehension and conviction of Edgar Hart, 24 years old, for the alleged abduction and mistreating Monday night of Susie Whiteside, 12, negro girl, daughter of Charlie Whiteside.

A warrant charging kidnapping and assault was sworn to against Hart today by County Attorney W. H. Strange in the County Court at Munfordville. Sheriff James Crutcher sent the warrant here to Deputy Sheriff Howard King for service.

In announcing the offer of the reward, specifying Hart, Chief Nunn gave his description as follows: Five feet eight inches tall, weighing 145 pounds, light hair, pale blue eyes, short nose, quick in motion. Former address Cave City, R. F. D.

According to the police here Hart is married and had served two years in an Indiana prison on a horse stealing charge, being released in 1922. His mother is said to live in Highland Park.

The odor of whiskey in the coupe abandoned by the assailant, who fled and escaped when fired upon by a posse Monday night on the Northtown Road, leads to belief that the car had been used for transporting liquor. There were two Kentucky licenses and an Indiana license plate. One license, Kentucky No. 91124 was issued at Brownsville, Edmonson County. The Indiana license is No. 522226. The motor number of the Ford car is 9,897,019.

A pistol was found on the side of the road. The negro girl said that it was on the seat when she was forced into the machine and she threw it out.

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Missisippi.

1747

GIRL'S ALLEGED ASSAILANT SPIRITED OFF FOR SAFETY

Mississippi Sheriff Baffles Mob Seeking Life of W. H. Hicks

GULFPORT, MISS., July 13.—William Hardy Hicks, 32 years old who told the police he is the owner of a saw mill near Memphis, Tenn., was spirited away from Gulfport today by Sheriff Duckworth following his arrest last night on a charge of attacking a 17 year old girl near Turkey Creek, north of here. Threats of violence caused the sheriff to remove the prisoner to an unannounced place.

Montgomery Advertiser 7-14-24

Hicks was arrested at a local hotel following complaint to the Gulfport police by the girl's parents. According to her story as told the police by her parents, she dined with Hicks at a local hotel Saturday night and instead of returning to her home he drove to Turkey Creek where the attack is alleged to have been made. After her return she informed her parents and the police were immediately notified.

The girl has been working as a stenographer in a Gulfport law office and was a Sunday school teacher.

Letters found on Hicks indicated that he has recently been in various parts of the country. He was a stranger here. In a statement he denied the charge.

Lynchings—
Rapes by Whites.

Missouri.

1748

1748

KIDNAPER CAUGHT WITH VICTIM, GIRL AGED TEN

Former Convict Had Attempted Attack on Child.

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo., June 13.—Jesse Huey, 37, who has served two sentences in the penitentiary, was arrested on a kidnaping charge about 6 o'clock Wednesday evening in the woods, near the old dumping ground, near Kellytown, by officers, after a warm chase. With him was found Thelma May, 10-year-old daughter of Lillie B. May, Stoddard County woman, who lives on the Garner farm, a short distance from Bernie.

The affair is the most sensational kidnaping case in this section in many years. According to the girl's story she was playing about the house last Friday evening, when Huey, who was going under the alias of Jess Hughes, picked her up in his arms, clapped his hand over her mouth to keep her from crying out and ran through the field with her. After they had started on their way he forced her to dispose of her dresses and don overalls, made by cutting off a pair of his overalls. He also cut off her hair to make her appearance that of a boy.

The little girl was forced to walk with her abductor from Bernie to Qulin, by roadway a distance of 35 or 40 miles. Arriving at Qulin they went in the dead of night to the home of J. F. Huey, father of the kidnaper, where he made the little girl lie down and he covered her up with clothing while he stole the horse and buggy and together they drove away.

"He told me that we were going to Mexico to get married, and to tell everybody that," the little girl said. "I cried and told him I didn't want to get married or go to Mexico."

Officers here were told to look out for Huey and Deputy Sheriff Clyde Hogg kept a watchout for him all day yesterday. The elder Huey, knowing of his son's recent release from the penitentiary, at once suspected that he had stolen the horse and buggy. He trailed the stolen buggy quite a distance to Poplar Bluff.

At about 3:30 o'clock Deputy Hogg came upon Huey and the girl in the woods near Kellytown. Huey when he saw Hogg, picked up the girl, put her in the buggy and whipped up the horse and drove away.

Hogg sent word for a posse and after a lengthy search, lasting until 6:30 p.m., F. W. Shadle and U. G. Brickell discovered Huey lying in a deep thicket with the girl lying prone on his chest. He was arrested with but little effort, but later made the assertion that had he been armed he would not have been so easily taken.

That criminal assault had been made upon the child was the opinion of physicians who examined her. They said she had been attacked or an attempt had been made. The little girl said when he attempted to assault her twice that she cried out and he would desist.

This afternoon Huey went before Judge Simoning in circuit court, where he entered a plea of guilty. Judge Ing after a severe reprimand, fixed punishment at 30 years in the penitentiary. Huey then asked to withdraw his plea of guilty and it was granted.

Huey once before served a sentence for kidnaping and assaulting a little girl. This was in another county, on Dec. 24, 1921. He was sentenced from this county to serve four years for burglary and larceny. He was discharged from the penitentiary April 19, 1924. He was still wearing his prison garb when captured.

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

New York.

1749

HELD ON CHARGE OF ASSAULTING GIRLS

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Aug. 2.—Solomon Harper, white, married and the father of four children, was held in $2,500 bail last week on a charge of felonious assault made by Miss Margaret Skelly and Miss Marion Wagner.

The man attempted to assault the girls after they had accepted an invitation to ride in his automobile.

Lynchings—1924
Rapes by Whites.

North Carolina.

1750

With Blackened Face Attempts Assault On White College Girl

Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 11.—While it seams practically impossible to obtain the names of the persons involved, it is a fact that a prominent young white man was lodged in jail here last Thursday night by a deputy sheriff of Alamanoe county in connection with an attack on a young white woman of Elcon College early in the night. The man was arrested on suspicion, the deputy said, and brought into Greensboro because of the high feelings prevailing at Elcon College. The assailant, who she said, wore a black mask over his face to give to him the appearance of a negro. During the struggle she managed to tear the mask from his face when she tried to scratch his eyes out. The young woman is said to have reached her home after the encounter, fainting on the door steps. Officials were notified and the man's arrest followed.

1-10-24

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Pennsylvania.

1751

CHARLEROI PA. MAIL
JANUARY 4, 1924

SHOULD HAVE ESCORTS.

Women and girls of Charleroi and North Charleroi—indeed, women and girls of this community, should have escorts when they emerge from their homes to attend the movies or social functions in this vicinity, as developments of late demonstrate. In less than 10 days, two young ladies, one of the borough, and the other a North Charleroi young girl, were the victims of attacks, a colored man being the assailant in one instance, and two white men, in the other. Fortunately, the victims of the attacks escaped uninjured.

The attack on the girl in Charleroi was made within a stone's throw of the Municipal building at 7 o'clock in the morning, and the girl escaped because she struggled with her assailant, and her screams frightened the man from the scene. In the other case, we are informed that the young lady escaped by making a run of it, when one of the men placed his hand on her arm.

Young ladies, girls of tender years, and married women should not be seen upon the streets either in the early evening or late at night, unaccompanied by their male friends, or relatives. This valley, liken unto all river towns, with manufacturing and mill procilivites, contains more or less of a floating population—both white men and colored. It is well to look upon the majority of these fellows with suspicion. Their cast of countenance is usually a true index of their character. It is proper, too, that the minions of the law arrest all men of suspicious character—floaters who cannot give a good account of themselves, and when they are arrested, deport them from the community. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty and happiness in the premises.

Parents have great responsibility in the rearing of their chldren, especally girls, and they should know where they are at night, and be assured if they are away from home that they are in reputable and safe ompany. There is too much of a xity in this regard in homes of community. The strong hand of discipline is needed as well in the cases of boys. It is well for old and young, however, to take the greatest precaution when visiting places of amusement or the theatres, parties, et cetera, at night. They should be assured that their safety in reaching their homes unmolested is guaran

WOMAN SCARES AWAY WHITE MAN WHO ATTEMPTS ASSAULT

Philadelphia, Pa., June 27.—About midnight Saturday while walking peacefully on Sharpnack St., near Germantown Ave., Mrs. Essie Harris was accosted by a white man who had jumped from an automobile. He dragged her into a driveway of a private residence, and only her screams and the fight she put up scared him away. When she arrived at the police station half of her clothes were town from her, and she had a black eye. Police have been unable to find her assailant.

TRIAL FOR WHITE MEN FOR ASSAULT BEGINS

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The case of 15-year-old Garrie Nix against Foseo and DeLillo, two Italians, who have been identified by the girl as members of a party of seven men who kidnapped and assaulted her on the night of April 15th, is scheduled to come up for trial in Quarter Sessions Court.

In spite of the girl's absolute identification of the men now on trial, the legal machinery has worked very slowly, and even now, one of the most important witnesses for the girl has not received a summons to appear in court. This important witness was the detective at the time Foseo was arrested, and is declared to have heard the white boy's confession as to his part in the crime.

An unknown white man visited the Nix home on 22nd street last Wednesday and questioned the father concerning the girl's whereabouts. He asked other rather strange questions, but was given no information of importance.

Although the crime was one of the utmost brutality, the white press has stayed strictly silent, the fact that seven white men assaulted a colored girl failing evidently to arouse the white man's much heralded belief not only in the sanctity of girlhood, but in common decency as well. The case will be followed closely by an interested public.

FIVE WHITE MEN ASSAULT GIRL

Willes Barre, Pa., Nov. 12.—Police authorities here are searching for five young white men who are alleged to have accosted a 20 year old girl and her male companion on one of the city's streets and to have criminally assaulted the young woman while her escort was held at bay.

According to the story told the department by the couple they were walking on a suburban thoroughfare when five men halted them. Drawing a revolver on her male companion the men are said to have seized the young woman and brutally assaulted her. She was found in an unconscious condition later in a field where she had been taken by the men after the matter had been reported by her companion who had been driven away at the point pistol.

Lynchings—1924.
Rapes by Whites.

Texas.

1752

GIRL'S ATTACKER REMOVED AFTER LYNCHING THREAT

Man Beaten Severely When Surprised Is Taken to Distant Jail.

Beaumont, Tex., April 24.—George W. McNeal, charged with having attacked an eleven-year-old girl near Port Neches last Sunday, today was rushed to the Harris county jail at Houston following threats of lynching heard around the Jefferson county jail here. The transfer was made by automobile to avoid necessity of taking McNeal to the railroad station.

Sheriff Garner, explaining the movement, said it was not fear for the safety of the prisoner, but for the life of citizens who might attempt violence. Since McNeal was jailed several hundred persons had called at the jail in an endeavor to see the prisoner, but permission was refused to all. Some of these congregated in groups outside the jail and made threatening gestures.

McNeal was caught in the act of attacking the girl in woods near Port Neches, after he had taken her for a ride in his automobile. He was beaten into insensibility by a crowd of men led to the place by boy companions of the girl who had been sent away by McNeal.

"BLACK RAPIST" TURNS OUT TO BE PURE WHITE

FAIRFIELD, Texas, Aug. 2.—The white newspapers of Texas carried an item, played up on their front pages, a few days ago about an alleged attack upon a white girl at Fairfield, a little one-horse town in Central Texas where six or more colored men and boys have been lynched and burned to death within the last two years for alleged attacks upon white women and girls.

A day or two later, hidden on the back page of these daily sheets, appeared a very brief item to the effect that two white youths had been arrested and a third was implicated in the "assault" and that his arrest was hourly expected.

Black Rapist Is Proven "White"

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